

# The Journal of **ELECTRICAL WORKERS** AND OPERATORS

RECORDING · THE · ELECTRICAL · ERA

VOL. XXXIII

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY, 1934

NO. 2



INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND N.R.A.

*A plan to supplement profit system*



# Presidents' Birthdays



February, 1934, the anniversary of the birthdays of President George Washington and President Abraham Lincoln, were anticipated this year by January 30, 1934, the birthday of President Roosevelt.

In considering all the activities and wisdom of President Roosevelt, we should bear in mind his attitude toward life insurance. This is expressed in the following quotation:

"Life insurance should be considered not as an expense but as savings. It should be the first factor in any program of investment. It should be the last to be let go. In hard times, it is especially important, and we should make every effort to keep our old life insurance in force.

"No matter who he may be, nor how he may be related to organized society, every normal individual has had thrust upon him a certain social obligation. Certain expectations on the part of his fellows have been formulated in advance of his entry; and all thrift is, in its final analysis, an effort to meet those expectations and fulfill those social obligations. Life insurance enables him to do that to the fullest and with greatest ease and certainty."

We should note particularly that "In hard times, it is especially important."

Times are growing easier now for many people throughout the country; and the importance not only of keeping our old life insurance in force but also adding new life insurance should be continually in mind.

**Never drop your life insurance and lose the built-up values if it is at all possible to continue it.**

**Build up your financial estate by adding whenever possible to your insurance program.**

**Let Union Cooperative help you.**



## Union Cooperative Insurance Association

Home Office: 1200 Fifteenth St. N. W.,

Washington, D. C.



# OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND OPERATORS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

G. M. BUGNIAZET, *Editor*, 1200 15th Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The first of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

International President, D. W. TRACY,  
1200 15th St., N. W., Washington,  
D. C.

International Secretary, G. M. BUG-  
NIAZET, 1200 15th St., N. W., Wash-  
ington, D. C.

International Treasurer, W. A. HOGAN,  
647 South Sixth Ave., Mt. Vernon,  
N. Y.

## VICE PRESIDENTS

First District \_\_\_\_\_ E. INGLES  
R. R. 3, London, Ont., Can.

Second District \_\_\_\_\_ CHAS. KEAVENEY  
Box 648, Lynn, Mass.

Third District \_\_\_\_\_ EDW. F. KLOTER  
265 West 14th St., New York, N. Y.

Fourth District \_\_\_\_\_ ARTHUR BENNETT  
Box 241, Youngstown, Ohio

Fifth District \_\_\_\_\_ G. X. BARKER  
7230 N. 4th Ave., Birmingham, Ala.

Sixth District \_\_\_\_\_ M. J. BOYLE  
3530 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill.

Seventh District \_\_\_\_\_ W. L. INGRAM  
3641 Laughton St., Fort Worth, Texas

Eighth District \_\_\_\_\_ H. W. BELL  
1517 2nd Ave. S., Great Falls, Mont.

Ninth District \_\_\_\_\_ H. P. BRIGAERTS  
Pacific Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.

Railroads \_\_\_\_\_ C. J. MCGLOGAN  
Bremer Arcade, St. Paul, Minn.

## INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

CHAS. M. PAULSEN, *Chairman*  
4919 N. Cuyler Ave., Chicago, Ill.

First District \_\_\_\_\_ G. W. WHITFORD  
1517 Third Ave., New York, N. Y.

Second District \_\_\_\_\_ F. L. KELLEY  
95 Beacon St., Hyde Park, Mass.

Third District \_\_\_\_\_ M. P. GORDAN  
607 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Fourth District, EDWARD NOTHNAGLE  
1717 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Fifth District \_\_\_\_\_ JAMES F. CASEY  
5051 Maffitt Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Sixth District \_\_\_\_\_ G. C. GADBOIS  
1532 No. Boston St., Tulsa, Okla.

Seventh District \_\_\_\_\_ C. F. OLIVER  
1045 King St., Denver, Colo.

Eighth District \_\_\_\_\_ J. L. MCBRIDE  
165 James St., Labor Temple,  
Winnipeg, Can.

## TELEPHONE OPERATORS' DEPARTMENT

President \_\_\_\_\_ JULIA O'CONNOR  
5 Boylston Place, Boston, Mass.

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ MARY BRADY  
5 Boylston Place, Boston, Mass.

## Magazine Chat

Way up in the northwestern part of the continent one of the most active friends of the Journal, F. Shapland, is doing good missionary work among those who need it. He writes us, "I have a number of friends who look to me each month for a copy of the Journal. Among them are two past presidents of the Victoria Authors Association, a superintendent of a trans-Canada railroad, and a retired traffic superintendent. The Carnegie Library and other institutions are also on my list. I count this organization work worth while and I know it helps me in winning new members for our cause."

A. L. Wegener, business manager of the thriving local of East St. Louis, sends congratulations on the organization supplement of the January Journal. He said: "It is inspiring to the members, surely it ought to be convincing to those who are not members." Our readers will find other words worth reading about this supplement scattered through the correspondence section.

The amount of force which our local correspondents are putting behind their work is most gratifying. They are giving time and thought to their letters and they are making a most worthy contribution to the collective work of the union each month. The writers of many of them measure up to the standard of professional writers, and this is not just hooey.

We are announcing for March an article by Vice President Ingles on the construction industry of Canada which promises to be most interesting. As you know we promised the local unions of Canada to have more and better articles on the industries of that great nation.

## Contents

	Page
NRA—Old-Fashioned as to Labor Relations . . . . .	51
Disapproval of NRA Swells to Din . . . . .	53
A Plan to Supplement Profit System . . . . .	54
Answering the Query "Who Gets What?" . . . . .	55
A. F. of L. Adopts Flexible Policy . . . . .	56
Giant Public Works Program Analyzed . . . . .	57
Brotherhood Dominant in Electrical Field . . . . .	58
Chances for Co-operation Thought Favorable . . . . .	59
Good Housing is a Matter of Good Income . . . . .	60
Federal Housing Program to Go On . . . . .	61
Workers' Education Bureau Makes Report . . . . .	62
Gird to Turn Back Fascism . . . . .	63
Radio Men Stir as Code Blasts Justice . . . . .	64
Secretary's Report Viewed as Notable . . . . .	65
Let's Go Deep Into Bare Neutral Business . . . . .	66
Editorial . . . . .	68
Woman's Work . . . . .	70
Bulletin of I. B. E. W. Radio Division . . . . .	72
Correspondence . . . . .	73
In Memoriam . . . . .	85
Local Union Official Receipts . . . . .	95









# THE JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS & OPERATORS

Official Publication of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Entered at Washington, D. C., as Second Class Matter Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized March 28, 1922

SINGLE COPIES, 20 CENTS

\$2.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE



VOL. XXXIII

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY, 1934

NO. 2

## NRA—Old-fashioned as to Labor Relations

**A**N economist of international reputation has been viewing the workings of NRA. He remarked to the writer recently about having turned over hundreds of codes, and having viewed all the extensive literature of the National Recovery Administration, and having reached the conclusion that in so far as industrial relations go the National Recovery Administration had done nothing toward solving this great question. He went on to say, "Of course, this is the rage point in American life and has been for 50 years, and it is not likely that government agencies that exist for employers and business would make any constructive contribution on the subject."

The question of industrial relations—or the question of place of labor in industry—is well within the scope of the National Industrial Recovery Act. The Act states as one of its purposes "to induce and maintain united action of labor and management under adequate governmental sanction and supervision." And again it says "to promote the fullest possible utilization of the present productive capacity of industries." It has been well known by management and engineers for 10 years at least that production depends upon proper industrial relations brought about in any given plant. To date the first one of these aims mentioned has been achieved by force under the lash of the National Recovery Administration. The National Recovery Administration has given business largely what it wanted in the way of trade practices, hours, wages and working conditions and has forced labor to go along. The National Labor Board has been created to adjust labor disputes with as little friction and loss as possible, but it, too, is only a negative instrument; it has no power to affect industrial relations on the affirmative side.

### Blue Eagle Old-Fashioned

In this sense the National Recovery Administration is old-fashioned. The Blue Eagle is the symbol of just what Americans have had for the last 50 years in the way of industrial statesmanship. It has not advanced civilization in industry any farther than have previous governmental agencies and instrumentalities. Such a book as "Labor Relations under the Recovery Act" with its incisive modern point of view, written by such authorities as Metcalf and Tead, is a closed book to Hugh Johnson

---

**Hailed as a modern instrument—eight months of life in so far as industrial relations go, have been total loss. New Deal is Old Deal. Blue Eagle just the same old bird of 1893.**

---

and his associates. Even such a book as "The New Leadership in Industry" published first in 1926 and written by Sam A. Lewisohn, a big business man, has no more meaning for Hugh Johnson and his associates than has Thorstein Veblen. For instance, here is comment from Mr. Lewisohn's book:

"One of the phenomena that is presented in industrial situations is an irritating sanctimoniousness and assumption of self-righteousness on the part of the old-fashioned employers. They regard as sacred the prerogatives of those in power. Such employers regard their plants as their 'castles.' This old 'castle' idea must go by the boards, and plants be regarded more as social units of production. For the result of this discarded notion was that the worker felt—to a large extent unconsciously, of course—that his dignity and self-respect were not accorded the consideration that they had been given in our political systems."

### Old Deal Perpetuated

As a matter of fact, NRA by its refusal to allow labor representatives to sit upon code authorities has perpetuated this old "castle" idea which Mr. Lewisohn, big businessman, said in 1926 should go by the board. Not a single code has been presented by any industry and accepted and approved by NRA which viewed the industry as a social unit of production. Codes have been viewed largely as systems of trade practices giving the trade advantage to the most powerful corporations within the industry. The small business has suffered, labor has suffered, and the consumer has suffered. NRA which has been heralded as the pride of the New Deal is nothing more than the old deal perpetuated on a large and systematic scale.

It would be a surprising thing, therefore, if NRA should look at labor relations in a modern way. It would be a surprising thing if the workers in any

given industry were considered as real elements in production, capable of making a large contribution to the technology of that industry. NRA has proceeded on the old-fashioned notion that management will protect the workers' interests; that collective bargaining is really a name for union propaganda and that there is no such thing as real, vital, spontaneous co-operation as between labor and management. All the experimentation that had been done in certain sections of industry for 20 years looking toward an intelligent solution of the problem of capital and labor has been completely ignored by Hugh Johnson and his associates. What NRA needs now more than anything else at the present are management engineers like Ordway Tead, Otto Beyer, Henry Metcalf and Geoffrey Brown to tell the brigadier generals and colonels that a new day dawned in industrial relations 20 years ago.

### Proprietary Attitude Evident

One has only to walk into the offices of the National Recovery Administration to be aware of the proprietary attitude manifested toward this governmental agency by striplings, military men and business executives who are operating it. Take the planning and research division. Here more petty jealousies are evident than on a college faculty, or in a girls' finishing school. Johnson has allowed an old personal friend, Alvin Brown, to operate this important division of NRA. Brown is a narrow, parochial type of man, trained in the detail of bureaucracy, highly suspicious of more superior men who are held down by him. Any subordinate who does not agree 100 per cent with General Johnson is looked upon with suspicion, and the report has it that there is real espionage abroad in this department. Brown discourages independent thinking. He hauls men up on the green carpet if they show any independence. It is this man who has charge of economic planning, and he has strangled any impetus toward real planning. His assistants who sit at public hearings usually content themselves with long-winded generalities about the honorableness of big business and the sanctity of the law of supply and demand. It is said on good authority that statistics submitted to this department are kept under lock and key and that many members of the National Recovery Administration are forbidden to see them.



These are some of the fundamental problems that still lie before the National Recovery Administration. It is reported that the Administrator has called to Washington for early this month representatives of all the code authorities created under codes now approved and operating. At this meeting it is said fundamental questions are going to be faced, but those who know feel that no real progress will be made toward solving the age-old tangle of industrial relations.

Early in January, members of the consumers' board and of the labor boards of NRA were astounded by an executive order that sounded a good deal like a sword rattling in its scabbard. This executive order, well couched in formal terms, simply said to labor and consumer: Play ball with the big business element of NRA or get out. We give the text of this order herewith because of its historical importance:

"The advisory boards are not here simply to 'make a record' by objecting to everything. If they can not adopt an attitude of conciliation and effort to make composition—robustly defending their particular positions but willing, under Government supervision, to give effect to the economic limitations as to what is possible—the Administrator will have to confess inadequacy of his fundamental plan and abolish them. No group here—whether industrial, consumers' or labor—can be permitted to dominate the final decision."

#### Research Staff Strong

In the meantime the National Labor Advisory Board of NRA is functioning as best it can. Admittedly it has little punch. Its chairman appears to have lost personal interest in the job. The members of the Labor Advisory Board have been so busy that few of them can give attention to codes and public hearings. The research staff created under the labor board is doing good work in the main. This staff is made up of young economists, statisticians and research men with little experience in the labor movement, but they have generally stood wholeheartedly by their guns and fought for labor at preliminary public hearings. They have begun to work out certain standard formulae in their application to codes. Some of these are the following:

1. A provision reducing learners in an industry to the smallest minimum possible.
2. Opposition to adjusting wages on a geographical basis.
3. For lowering hours in all industries from 48 to 40 and from 40 to 35 hours a week.
4. To cut down exemptions from paying wage minimums established in a code to the smallest minimum possible.
5. Time and one-half for overtime.
6. Discouragement of overtime, peak loads and emergency service.
7. Representation of labor on code authorities.
8. The setting up of industrial relations board with equal representation

with employers on the part of labor.

9. Computing the time worked by an employee on the basis from the hour of reporting to the hour of dismissal.

10. Inclusion of skilled workers properly classified and with minimum wage scales in all codes.

11. A general rise in minimum wage scales for unskilled workers.

12. Fixing of the clause eliminating child labor to 18 years.

13. Two weeks' vacation with pay and sick leave with pay.

14. Requirements that all employers shall post codes and their amendments in conspicuous places in any given plant.

It is apparent that these principles have been worked out largely from the demands of unions who have gone before NRA.

That NRA has not escaped analysis by members of the Labor Advisory Board is indicated by the recent scathing criticism offered by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America. Mr. Lewis has developed clear ideas as to what must take place if the administration of the NIRA is to be made an instrument of the times:

"Organized labor is a single unit in its approval of the objectives of the National Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Lewis declared. "Labor may differ with the National Recovery Administration in its interpretations and policies, but as to the Act itself the support of organized labor, in a fundamental sense, is without reservation."

"From the standpoint of human welfare and economic freedom, we are convinced that there has been no legal instrument comparable with it since President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of 70 years ago. We also are convinced that the principles embodied in the Recovery Act represent America's chief hope, not only for economic recovery, but for a better economic and social life in the future."

#### Shorter Hours and Higher Pay Asked

But the head of the mine workers had no illusions about the elements necessary to bring about economic recovery. "Mass purchasing power," he declared, "must be increased in order to absorb the constantly growing output of mass production industries, and hours of work must be reduced, while earnings are maintained, in order that those who were technologically displaced before the existing depression, and who may have been displaced since 1929 by improved methods and further mechanization of industry, may be re-employed."

So far, he said, the workweek prescribed in the codes is too long and the wages too low to accomplish these objectives. "The present policy, with the exception of minimum wage rates, is more or less temporizing, and exceedingly slow in its application."

To meet this condition the National Recovery Administration, he said, "should announce a new definite policy for the guidance of industry to which all codes should be required in principle to conform. This policy should be broader

than that now existing, and should include, not only minimum wage rates and maximum hours, but definite price and production objectives."

"The ultimate objectives as to policy and procedure of the National Recovery Administration should be immediately announced and stated to be the standards which must be included by industries in their codes. To my mind, these standards should be:

"1. Hours of work per week to be reduced, as far as practicable, to a general level of 30 hours a week, of five six-hour workdays.

"2. Minimum wage rate of 50 cents per hour.

"3. General wage rates of 1926 raised sufficiently to produce the same weekly wage for shorter hours as earned per week before reduction in weekly schedule of hours.

"4. Production schedule as of 1926."

#### Work for All Jobless

Mr. Lewis expressed the belief that these standards would put most of the millions of unemployed to work, suggesting that if it were deemed inadvisable to make the change to 1926 conditions in one leap it could be accomplished by stages, but that hours should be reduced and rates of pay advanced proportionately in each stage.

"If some such constructive policy should not be adopted by the National Recovery Administration on its own initiative, it will be necessary for organized labor to seek an extension of Section 7 through legislation by the Congress," Mr. Lewis concluded. "This would necessarily take the form of the extension of Section 7 into a more general enumeration of mandatory industrial principles, or in, other words, of a more comprehensive industrial Bill of Rights, to include the following:

"1. Complete co-partnership between capital and labor, by providing that code authorities, or code administrative agencies, should be composed of an equal number of representatives of employers and employees, with an impartial chairman, with the right to a vote in event of a tie, appointed by the National Recovery Administration, or, in other words, by the government.

"2. A maximum working day of six hours and a maximum 30-hour workweek for all codes.

"3. Minimum rates of pay for all codes sufficient to enable an unskilled worker to support his family in health and modest comfort, and to provide reasonable savings against the contingencies of life.

"4. Equal pay for women performing the same work as men.

"5. The levying of assessments upon industries under the codes sufficient to yield funds for unemployment insurance payments, and old-age and disability pensions.

#### Prompt NRA Action Necessary

"The Recovery Act itself, in its more general provisions, as I have stated, provides complete authority for economic

(Continued on page 94)



# Disapproval of NRA Swells to Din

**A** SURVEY of the labor press indicates that labor is in rebellion against the administration of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

## Typographical Journal, January, 1934

With the knowledge that the minimums which will be set by the codes so far as wages are concerned will be of no value to the printing trades, and with the definite knowledge that the maximum number of hours worked is in many places in excess of the minimum hours now in force by order of the union, it becomes necessary that we plant our feet firmly on solid ground and resolve that if the government can't help us any, we will have to see to it that the government is not going to injure us.

## New Leader, January 20, 1934

The A. F. of L. has heretofore said little on reduction of skilled workers' pay. It has recognized that this has suffered and that the NRA is in some respects a "share-the-work" program. But it has hoped that increases in total buying power due to the raising of wages of lower paid workers under the codes, together with increases in employment, would bring recovery sufficient to boost skilled workers' income equal to or exceeding previous levels. That hope is still held, but labor is showing dissatisfaction over present conditions. In view of the fact that the A. F. of L. is largely an organization of skilled workmen, this feeling is easy to understand.

The growing dissatisfaction cropped out in the testimony of President Green at the lumber code hearing and in the Federation's monthly survey of business, quoted here last week. Now comes the powerful International Typographical Union, oldest organization in the A. F. of L., to voice the feeling in no uncertain language. As a matter of fact, the I. T. U. virtually hurls defiance at the government. Coming from an organization as conservative as the I. T. U., the criticism is regarded in labor circles as highly significant.

## Painter and Decorator, January, 1934

It is understood that the master code for the construction industry, with some amendments to its original form, has been laid on the President's desk for signature. But, even with such changes as have been incorporated, the code contains wage, hour and other provisions that are abominable to building trades workers. No code veering so far from what the workers in the building industry know themselves to be entitled to can be accepted by those workers.

## Labor begins to rebel against business man administration of labor law.

## Tacoma Labor Advocate, January 19, 1934

Prices are going up under codes for profiteers, but not going up for the farmers. The price drain has already set back business by diminishing the quantity that can be bought by the wages received. That's not the only thing, but the refusal of Deputy White-side, supported by Donald Richberg, to consider the consumer's point of view clearly shows what is the objective in the minds of such hand-picked administrators in the NRA. Nor is that all; for the devaluation of the dollar is daily decreasing its buying power and when stabilization comes, this also will detract from the buying power of wages. Altogether the prospects for this recovery plan grow darker and darker.

## Upholsterers Journal, January, 1934

The mountain labored and forth came a mouse. We have reference to the code for the furniture manufacturing industry evolved under the NRA and signed by the President on December 7, 1933. It is a disappointing document, one which will neither help nor cure the ills which have beset our industry for the past several years. It is a document which clearly testifies to the utter shortsightedness of the so-called dominant

business men, who basically are responsible for the inadequacy and meanness of its provisions. And finally it speaks eloquently to the effect that if the workers in the industry really want to clean up the demoralized conditions prevailing in it, they will have to keep on organizing and accomplish self-liberation through the union.

## The Stage Hand, in American Guardian, January 17, 1934

Business is still about 85 per cent in the saddle in Washington. It used to be 100 per cent. Maybe a sucker public will allow it to get back even the 15 per cent. And then again, maybe a larger percentage of the public may be getting tired of being suckers and put the figure above 15 per cent.

## Edward Flore, General President, in The Catering Industry Employee, January, 1934

If we are to accept the conclusions reached by the NRA and approved by the President in the hotel code on November 16, 1933, which provides in part for a 60-hour week for women workers, we must confess that there is little doubt but that the National Industrial Recovery Program has failed in its purpose.

The 54 and 60-hour week and the lowering of wage standards as set up in the hotel code and as approved by the President are a travesty on what we are led to believe is an industrial recovery program that was initiated by the President, approved by Congress, and is being administered by the National Recovery Administration.

(Continued on page 92)



A Great Ship Approaching Port Releases a Plane With Mail That Anticipates the Boat's Landing 24 Hours. This Is Called Progress. But Progress in Human and Industrial Relations Lags.



# A Plan to Supplement Profit System

By ARTHUR E. SUFFERN, Economist, Federal Council of Churches, Lecturer on Economics, New York University

(Editor's Note: This is an important paper. Dr. Suffern discovers authority in the National Industrial Recovery Act to create a system of co-operative production for the unemployed. This system would supplement the present, semi-co-operative profit system.)

EVERYBODY seems to be wondering whether the NRA is going to work. Nobody seems greatly concerned about increasing employment fast enough to make it work. Public works and the Civil Works Administration are obviously inadequate devices to meet the need for work and wages among the many millions of unemployed. It is generally recognized, however, that the full effectiveness of the NRA cannot be realized unless these people are put to work. Why, then, is this desirable consummation delayed? Can the result be obtained under a system devoted to profit making and technological improvements which dispense with labor faster than jobs can be found for those who are thus displaced?

Instead of facing this most important question those who could answer it are devoting their attention to seeking ways around it. There is a way, however, which leads directly to the result desired. And this can be attained without overthrowing the profit making system. But it will meet with strenuous opposition from those who believe that the inoculation of the New Deal virus will result in the death of *laissez faire*. Some think that this virus will establish an immunity to the grave disorders which characterized the post-war period and that it will finally result in giving employment to everybody. Others, who may be classed as objective students of economic life, are less optimistic. Their emphasis is on estimating potentialities and defining alternatives which must be faced if the NRA fails. Thus far they have contributed little to the solution of the immediate problem of putting people to work.

Those who fear the death of *laissez faire* are making a frontal attack on the recovery program. They will be satisfied with nothing less than a return to "business as usual." Others want to retain the advantage of freedom from the restrictions of the anti-trust laws but they insist that "self-government of industry" will give the public sufficient protection against restriction of output and price increases. With both of these classes the fear of bureaucracy and limitation of profits is a major factor influencing their attitudes and policies. They demand the repeal of licensing provision of the NRA. Among those who wish to return to *laissez faire* the elimination of the provision for collective bargaining is a major consideration.

**Authority analyzes NRA in its relation to the profit system. Points way to speedy employment of men. Business as usual sire of Fascism.**

## Old Order Dead

Many objective students of economic life are convinced that a return to "business as usual" is impossible. Something has happened which will make it unacceptable. The results of cut-throat competition and fraudulent practices have become too well known. The swing of the business cycle from prosperity to depression has become too disastrous. A stagnation which keeps millions of workers unemployed for years costs too much in loss of business as well as in human suffering. Concentration of wealth and income in the hands of a few results in overinvestment in productive equipment. Production for profit only becomes, under these conditions, too great a limitation on the use of the economic system to provide the nation with a living. With wealth concentrated too greatly in the hands of a few economic control will be abused. The limitation of output in order to keep prices up and profits large will only add to over-swollen fortunes and the misery of masses who are dependent upon industrial overlords for an opportunity to gain a subsistence. The situation becomes ripe for the introduction of a Fascism which will see political as well as economic control in order to retain ill-gotten gains.

If history teaches anything it demon-

strates that thus far no class of exploiters in any nation has ever recognized that they were taking too much away from the masses until it was too late to perpetuate their power. In modern industrial nations the profit makers have failed to practice enlightened self-interest by providing employment and by distributing sufficient income among wage earners and small salaried workers. Obviously, this is necessary in order to provide a market for the goods which existing productive equipment is able to supply. The failure to do this indicates that the possessing class has learned little or nothing from the history of recurring depressions. Those among the possessing class who would revert to the "good old days" prior to 1930 are close relatives to their progenitors in European countries who have brought on revolutions by carrying exploitation too far. Allowing millions of people to remain on the verge of starvation is playing with fire which threatens the whole body politic.

Those who see economic and political life in historical perspective are hoping that advantage will be taken of the opportunity provided by the NRA to spread economic welfare and to limit the power of those who would persist in absorbing too great a proportion of the national income. They see in the NRA an opportunity to establish a democratic basis in economic life which has not been attained previously. They recognize that political control resides with those who have economic control. Therefore, they believe that a sounder basis of democracy in economic life would enlarge the prospect of a political democracy more in accordance with the concept of freedom, equality and welfare of the masses which lined them up against the classes in the overthrow of absolutism in government. They hope that modern business men have learned from the experience of the depression the importance of distributing more income among the lower paid groups. However, they doubt that piratical attitudes bred by the profit-making system can be changed overnight into concepts and practices leading to more co-operative action in the interest of national welfare. They insist that if business men are to be allowed to combine throughout each industry, workers and consumers must have effective representation in making and administering codes. They maintain that if the economic system is to function primarily to supply the needs of the people it will be necessary to carry on nationwide economic planning. Whether this can be done under the profit making system is an open question.

## Greed Foe to NRA

The chief threat to the success of the NRA is the spirit of greed and callous-  
(Continued on page 92)



ARTHUR E. SUFFERN



# Answering the Query "Who Gets What?"

**SENATOR ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE** asked for an income distribution study. The U. S. Department of Commerce carried it on. Results were reported recently back to Congress. The story is old.

The United States was only about one-half as rich in 1932 as in 1929.

Labor suffered most, with a falling off in income of wage-earners of "60 per cent in those industries in which it was possible to segregate this item."

Decline in income was most severe in the construction industry.

The electric light and power industry suffered least.

Since 1930 the United States has lived upon its hump.

The study was carried on under the direction of Robert Martin, senior economic analyst, research division, U. S. Department of Commerce, and Benjamin F. Kuznets, National Bureau of Economic Research.

The total income distributed to individuals throughout the nation was 81.0 billion dollars in 1929; 75.4 billion in 1930; 63.3 billion in 1931; and 49.0 billion in 1932, a decline of 40 per cent between 1929 and 1932. Income produced in each of these years amounted to 83.0, 70.5, 54.7, and 38.3 billion dollars, respectively, with the decline from 1929 to 1932 amounting to 54 per cent. The income distributed by industries in 1929 was less than that produced to the extent of 2.0 billion dollars, this amount being retained by corporate and individual enterprises. In the following years, however, the amount distributed exceeded the amount produced, a draft being made upon previously accumulated surpluses and assets; such withdrawal of income exceeded income produced in 1932 by 10.6 billion dollars.

## Labor's Income Falls

The study indicates that labor income amounted to about 53 billion dollars in 1929, accounting for 65 per cent of the total income distributed. Property income and entrepreneurial income in the same year each amounted to slightly over 12 billion dollars, or 15 per cent of the total, while net rents made up the remaining 5 per cent. The total figures also include the net flow of international income payments.

Wages have suffered the most severely in the general decline since 1929, with a falling off of 60 per cent in those industries in which it was possible to segregate this item. Salaries dropped 40 per cent, much less rapidly than wages, with the most severe curtailment occurring in 1932. A significant divergence in declining trends is apparent as between labor income and property income; by 1932 the former had fallen

**New U. S. Income distribution study repeats same old story, "labor takes the gaff." Construction industry hardest hit. Electric light happy. Interest rates almost stationary.**

off 40 per cent, while property income distributed receded but 30 per cent. This situation was brought about by the maintenance of interest payments rather uniformly up to 1932, with only a small decline then. Dividend payments were well maintained in 1930, but



**SENATOR LA FOLLETTE**  
He Has His Eyes Upon Questions of Income Distribution and National Wealth.

declined thereafter more rapidly than labor income.

Manufacturing was the largest industrial class contributing to income, accounting for 22 per cent of the total distributed in 1929. Trade, finance, and services followed in order, accounting for 14, 12, and 11 per cent of the total, respectively.

## Construction Hard Hit

The decline in income distributed was most severe in the construction industry, the 1932 volume being but 28 per cent of the amount paid out in 1929. Income in mining fell off about 60 per cent and in manufacturing about 55 per cent in the four-year period. In the manufacture group, the construction materials and metals and metal products sections declined most severely, 70 per cent and 67 per cent, respectively. It will thus be seen that the greatest declines have taken place in the durable goods industries.

The general downward trend was least severe in the field of government (in which expansion of employment and bonded indebtedness slightly raised income payments), electric light and power and gas, communications, and food and food products manufacture.

Summary tables follow:

### National Income, Paid Out and Produced

	(Millions of Dollars)			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Income paid out	81,040	75,438	63,289	48,952
Business savings or losses	1,998	-4,955	-8,639	-10,603
Income produced	83,037	70,484	54,652	38,349
	Percentages of 1929			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Income paid out	100.0	93.1	78.1	60.4
Income produced	100.0	84.9	65.8	46.2
U. S. B. of L. S. cost of living index	100.0	97.4	88.9	80.4
U. S. B. of L. S. wholesale price index	100.0	90.7	76.6	68.0

Subject to minor corrections.

### National Income Paid Out, by Types of Payment

	(Millions of dollars)			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Salaries (selected industries) <sup>1</sup>	5,702	5,660	4,738	3,382
Wages (same as in line 1) <sup>1</sup>	17,180	14,200	10,541	6,839
Salaries and wages (all other industries)	29,129	27,902	24,759	20,367
Total labor income <sup>2</sup>	52,867	48,688	41,027	31,595
Dividends	5,963	5,795	4,311	2,590
Interest	5,687	5,826	5,062	5,506
Total property income <sup>3</sup>	12,215	12,238	10,508	8,489
Net rents and royalties	3,835	3,237	2,494	1,691
Entrepreneurial withdrawals	12,121	11,275	9,259	7,181
Total entrepreneurial income	15,956	14,512	11,753	8,872
Total income paid out	81,040	75,438	63,289	48,952

	Percentages of 1929			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Salaries (selected industries) <sup>1</sup>	100.0	99.3	83.1	59.3
Wages (same as in line 1) <sup>1</sup>	100.0	82.7	61.4	39.8
Salaries and wages (all other industries)	100.0	95.8	85.0	69.9
Total labor income <sup>2</sup>	100.0	92.1	77.6	59.8
Dividends	100.0	97.2	72.3	43.4
Interest	100.0	102.4	99.6	96.8
Total property income <sup>3</sup>	100.0	100.2	86.0	69.5
Net rents and royalties	100.0	84.2	65.0	44.1
Entrepreneurial withdrawals	100.0	93.0	76.4	59.2
Total entrepreneurial income	100.0	91.0	73.7	55.6
Total income paid out	100.0	93.1	78.1	60.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes mining, manufacturing, construction, steam railroads, Pullman railway express and water transportation.

<sup>2</sup>Includes also employees' pensions and compensation for injury.

<sup>3</sup>Includes also net balance of international flow of property incomes.

Subject to minor corrections.

(Continued on page 93)



# A. F. of L. Adopts Flexible Policy

**A** FLEXIBLE policy of organization designed to protect craft unions from ephemeral overnight organizations, yet allowing unions to meet the changing conditions of industry, has been worked out by the American Federation of Labor. The plan calls for organization "in whatever form or method is best designed to rally the wage-earners to the cause of organized labor, bearing in mind that in the pursuit of organization the present structure, rights and interests of affiliated national and international unions must be followed, observed and safeguarded."

The flexible policy is seen in Washington as an impetus to a great organizing campaign against the growing menace of company unionism. This is wrapped up also with the problem of liberalizing NRA policies and forcing NRA to enforce the law in Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act, which forbids employers from coercing employees into company unions. The policy was worked out by a meeting of the heads of international unions held in Washington late in January, the committee reported.

"Your committee in considering the subject assigned to it is conscious of the limitations under which this conference was called and can function; that it is without power and authority to alter or change the fundamental principles of trades autonomy upon which the American Federation of Labor was founded, or to alter the constitutional requirements and provisions of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is the sense of this committee that this conference can only adopt such policies and procedure as are in accord with the constitutional requirements and provisions, and it is with that understanding we report as follows:

## Organization Is Imperative

"Organization among wage earners is imperative. Industries are being organized and cartelized throughout the land. Unless the wage earners are united through organization, free and independent of employer control or influence, labor will have suffered a distinctive loss.

"The paramount issue is not what particular form of organization shall be followed in this emergency and this unusual situation.

"The demand of the moment is to promote organization in whatever form or method is best designed to rally the wage earners to the cause of organized labor, bearing in mind that in the pursuit of organization the present structure, rights and interests of affiliated national and international unions must be followed, observed and safeguarded.

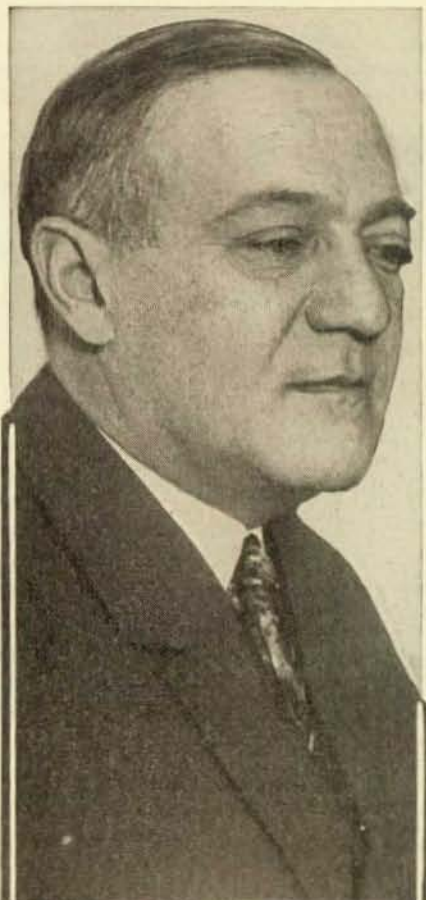
## Form of Organization Is Not Static

"The American Federation of Labor, contrary to a common belief, does not desire to dictate the form of organiza-

**Vexed issue of type of organization met in January meeting. Company union policy of NRA hit.**

tion that shall prevail among wage earners.

"Its policy has been that of encouraging whatever form of organization in any trade, calling or industry seems best



SENATOR ROBERT F. WAGNER  
Whose Understanding and Sympathy For  
Labor Endures Through Trying Times.

to meet the situation and the requirements of the workers.

"The American Federation of Labor has provided methods and means of encouraging organization through federal and local trade unions among workers not embraced in the work of national and international unions. In that way and by that process quite a number of existing national and international unions have been formed.

"Today, we are confronted with an entirely new and novel situation, wherein provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act express sympathy to the organization of wage earners but leave the subject of the form and method of organization entirely to the discretion of

the wage earners without guide or direction, giving recognition to whatever form may be adopted for the moment, and without thought of ultimate consequences or reckoning.

## Employers Develop Company Union

"Employers have taken full advantage of this situation in the organizing and maintaining of company unions. Employers are granted every encouragement and aid under the law in perfecting their organization while at the same time they are denying the exercise of the same rights on the part of the workers and in keeping with the intent and spirit of the National Recovery Act.

"It is in this sort of situation that the American Federation of Labor must assume leadership and take command in the organizing of wage earners in whatever form the temporary situation may demand or require and with the objective in mind of not only protecting and promoting existing national and international unions in their structure and functioning and in the setting up and maintaining of their standards of employment, but in encouraging the formation of new national and international unions where no such organizations now prevail.

## Jurisdiction Conflicts

"It must be apparent that in this endeavor of organization, conflicts of jurisdiction and claims of invasions of organization rights are likely to occur.

"If we are to meet the requirements of the moment we must accept such conflicts in the spirit of tolerance and through proper procedure correct such errors as have or hereafter may occur.

"After all, we must look to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to serve in this capacity as never heretofore. In that spirit and in that thought we recommend:

## Broad Latitude for Federal Labor Charters

"First: That the work of organizing by and through national and international unions, supplemented by that of the American Federation of Labor through federal and local trade unions, proceed with increased vigor and determination; that the fullest possible latitude be exercised by the executive council in the granting of federal charters and that where or whenever a temporary infraction of the rights of national and international unions may be involved, that the executive council adjust such difficulties in the spirit of taking full advantage of the immediate situation and with the ultimate recognition of the rights of all concerned.

"Second: That the executive council through the officers of the American Federation of Labor arrange conferences between organizers and representatives

(Continued on page 96)



# Giant Public Works Program Analyzed

**W**HEN the lump sum of \$3,000,000,000 is considered, it appears to be very large, but when this total is divided between 48 states it seems to be only a little water with which to prime the economic pump. Again when this total is divided not only on a geographic basis, but is divided between types of projects it again seems to shrink and dwindle. The vast sum of \$3,000,000,000 appropriated by the Congress of the United States last June has been allocated. It has been divided between bridges and structures, sewers, waterworks, housing, states and highways, schools, power plants, miscellaneous improvements, miscellaneous buildings, hospitals, and recreation facilities. This means that the giant total for public works had to be divided not only 48 ways but again re-divided 11 ways.

Electrical workers and other building craftsmen are most vitally interested in the following: Housing, schools, power plants, hospitals and miscellaneous buildings. These five classifications mean more than a quarter of the money is to be spent for structures that will eventually employ building tradesmen.

The remarkable fact about the public works situation therefore, is not how much money has been appropriated but how much more money is likely to be needed to satisfy the intense demand on the part of communities for improvements. Hitherto communities have neglected this phase of construction. Now that the need has arisen more work has revealed itself which needs to be done than there is money for. There is little doubt that a new appropriation will be requested by Congress.

**Brotherhood research department shows just how the three billion dollars plus is being spent. Half billion goes for building types.**

## BY STATES PUBLIC WORKS ALLOTMENTS

For

Housing, Schools, Power Plants, Hospitals and Other Buildings  
December, 1933

Alabama	\$2,640,000
Arizona	14,000
Arkansas	407,000
California	23,590,024
Colorado	16,985,411
Connecticut	3,178,700
Delaware	658,000
Florida	5,881,487
Georgia	6,850,115
Idaho	622,274
Illinois	51,659,545
Indiana	3,324,400
Iowa	3,486,770
Kansas	1,565,280
Kentucky	1,434,695
Louisiana	7,475,200
Maine	
Maryland	8,847,666
Massachusetts	14,035,035
Michigan	1,815,115
Minnesota	2,073,014
Mississippi	6,746
Missouri	5,806,357
Montana	3,996,758

Nebraska	17,128,256
Nevada	206,000
New Hampshire	1,267,600
New Jersey	17,832,405
New Mexico	360,500
New York	124,810,003
North Carolina	1,791,500
North Dakota	1,679,470
Ohio	21,863,700
Oklahoma	2,294,580
Oregon	1,637,435
Pennsylvania	3,911,200
Rhode Island	3,602,261
South Carolina	2,201,700
South Dakota	2,594,480
Tennessee	1,944,833
Texas	21,350,974
Utah	4,514,400
Vermont	398,123
Virginia	7,347,900
Washington	1,740,328
West Virginia	6,449,700
Wisconsin	14,129,177
Wyoming	20,000

Total, United States \$427,430,117  
Territory of Hawaii 405,300

Total, U. S. and Hawaii \$427,835,417  
To limited dividend corporations 48,571,958  
To railroads 182,808,000

Total non-federal \$659,215,375  
Claimed total 658,866,476  
Federal projects 2,413,234,727

Grand total \$3,072,101,203

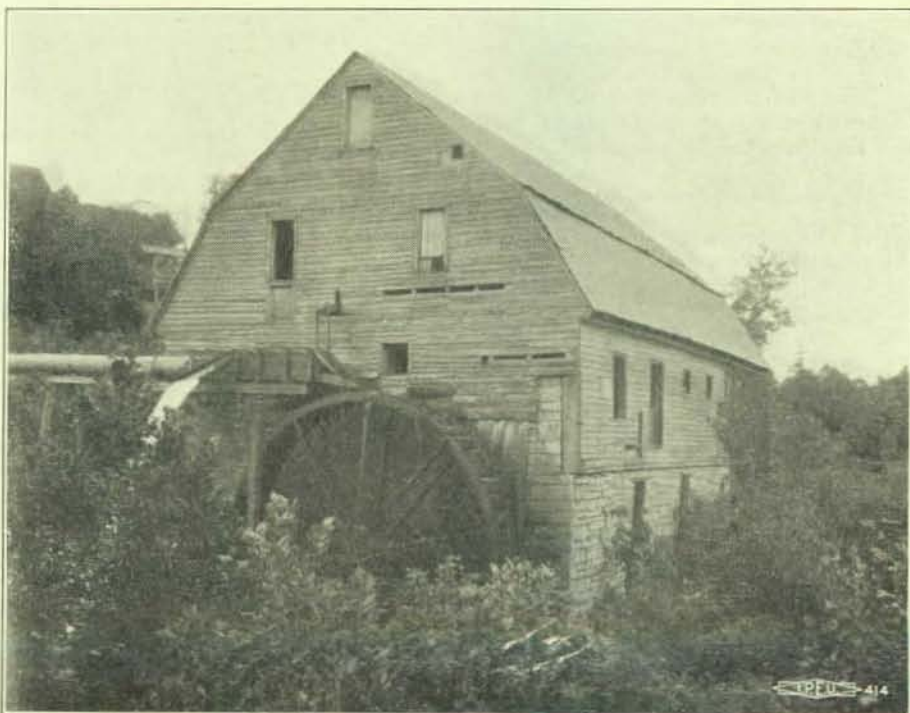
Speech is the gift of all but the thought of few.

## ALLOCATION OF PWA FUNDS FOR NON-FEDERAL PROJECTS

Type of Project	Per cent
Bridges and structures	28.6
Sewers	21.0
Waterworks	12.2
Housing	11.3
Streets and highways	6.1
Schools	5.4
Power plants	5.3
Miscellaneous improvements	4.1
Other buildings	3.3
Hospitals	2.6
Recreation facilities	0.1
Total	100.0

## TYPES WHICH BUILDING TRADES ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN:

	Per cent
Housing	11.3
Schools	5.4
Power plants	5.3
Hospitals	2.6
Other Buildings	3.3
Total	27.9



Pastoral Scene in the Mountain Districts of Tennessee Now Being Transformed With PWA Funds.



# Brotherhood Dominant in Electrical Field

**E**IGHT months of gruelling contesting before the National Recovery Administration has left the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with increased prestige in the electrical industries. Though the Labor Advisory Board of NRA has shown regard for dual union organizations in any given industry and though free expression has been given recently built organizations, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers remains the responsible, stable and dominant union of the large and influential electrical industries.

In the electrical construction branch of the industry no rival organization of any type has come forward. Co-operation has developed between the union and the National Electrical Contractors Association and these organizations have appeared jointly before the National Recovery Administration with proof that they are the truly representative groups on the employer and employee sides. In the electrical manufacturing branch which recently has made two additional appearances before NRA in a second and third public hearing, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has played the dominant role. It has had full co-operation with the Federal unions chartered under the American Federation of Labor. In both the electrical manufacturing and the electric utility fields, local unions outside the Brotherhood have made appearances and have acquitted themselves creditably with briefs, but all of them have revealed themselves merely as novitiate local organizations incapable of challenging a stable international group. The Brotherhood has taken a tolerant attitude toward these activities and has not opposed their appearance before NRA inasmuch as the Brotherhood believes that organization is good at this time and they have felt that in due time they would see the error of their way and join the Brotherhood.

## Does Not Fear Rivalry

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers does not fear the invasion of the local field by these groups. At both these hearings it was the Brotherhood that attracted the fire of opposition and carried the battle for the workers' rights with the Recovery Administration.

In the radio broadcasting field the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is the sole organization. It has given full co-operation under the new code to the Recovery Administration. Only one more basic code with which we are concerned remains to be heard before NRA. This is for the telephone industry. D. W. Tracy, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, was labor adviser in the case of the electrical construction code. G. M. Bugniazet, International Secretary, was adviser in the case of the

---

**Basic codes reveal International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers holds stable, respected and responsible position in every branch of the industry.**

---

electrical manufacturing code at the request of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, first appointed, and Mr. Bugniazet is also labor adviser for the code of fair competition for the light and power industry. Edward Nockels, member of the union, was labor adviser for the radio broadcasting code. Charles L. Reed, assistant to the president, and Mrs. Julia O'Connor Parker are scheduled labor advisers for the telephone code. In addition to these extensive activities in the important branches of the electrical industry, the union has made appearance at many of the other public hearings and has carried on extensive activities in the case of the motion picture, legitimate theatre, outdoor amusement park, sign, beauty parlor equipment, and others.

At the public hearing held January 22 on the construction code, the Brotherhood presented evidence to show that it is truly a representative labor organization in the construction field. It presented a map showing the geographical distribution of local unions throughout the United States and a list of more than 2,500 electrical contractors of responsible and extensive character with whom the Brotherhood has had long time contractual relations.

## Utility Service Revealed

In the case of the electric light and power industry the Brotherhood made this statement in regard to its service in this industry:

"The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is making an appearance at this public hearing on the electric light and power industry code as a direct participant in that industry. During a period of 42 years of life of this organization, our members have contributed vitally to the upbuilding of this industry. At present we hold numerous formal contracts with public utility companies outside of the municipal ownership field. In addition, our members work in many utilities where no formal agreements with the management exist. Moreover, we have strong union relations in many allied and related industries that are vitally affected by and in turn vitally contribute to the public utility business; namely, electrical construction and maintenance, manufacture, installation and repair, including sound, radio and telephone. We make an appearance, therefore, at this public hearing as an integral part of the industry

with a background of group experience stretching over nearly half a century, in fact almost the entire life of the electric lighting business. We bring to this question of trade relations this experience and this collective knowledge."

The recommendations to the National Recovery Administration in the case of the electric light and power industry were as follows:

"1. A minimum wage scale for workers, other than skilled, of 56 cents an hour. This is in line with the practice already existent in the large municipally operated public utilities of the country.

"2. The minimum scale for skilled electrical workers shall be \$1.20 with the added stipulation that overtime shall be paid for at the rate of one and a half times. This per hour minimum shall apply, irrespective of whether an employee is actually compensated on time rate, piece work, bonus or other basis.

"3. That the maximum hour schedule shall be 30 hours a week.

"4. That this paragraph shall be substituted in the Code:

"Employers shall carry on construction and operation, and repair and maintenance work, in conformity with the requirements of the National Electrical Safety Code issued by the National Bureau of Standards."

"5. It shall be unlawful for any public utility to use the funds of that utility in maintaining so-called company unions, or assisting institutions in serving the purpose of company unions, or in maintaining mutual benefit associations of employees.

"6. The electrical light and power industry in all its electrical construction and contracting activities shall be governed by the Code of Fair Competition for the Electrical Contracting Industry under all conditions, whether such construction is done direct by the electric utility or by contract to subsidiary construction companies or other sub-contractors. It shall be subject to the hours, wages and working conditions outlined in the Code of Fair Competition for the Electrical Contracting Industry.

"7. That labor be given representation with government and consumer representatives on the Code Authority."

Prior to this time this official JOURNAL has reported the widespread influence of the union in the radio broadcasting industry. At that time the union spoke for thousands of radio broadcasting operators. Since that time marked organization gains have been made by the union in this field. The union has struggled at all times to secure higher wages, shorter hours and representation of labor on code authorities at every hearing.

The bound volumes of the 1933 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.



# Chances for Co-operation Thought Favorable

**A**FTER a gruelling six months of controversy, conferences, maneuvering, and stubborn resistance on the part of organized labor, a code for the construction industry with 40 supplemental chapters has been promulgated by NRA.

At the same time a new code for the electrical construction industry, largely the result of long conferences between the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the National Electrical Contractors Association, is ready for approval by NRA and the President of the United States. Organized labor does not regard the construction code nor any of the supplemental codes as ideal from the point of view of unions, but when it is considered that the building trades unions have been the victims of probably the most devious, acute and unscrupulous arrangement among anti-union employers that ever was devised, and that this arrangement has been wholly and utterly smashed and laid away to rest, the construction codes appear in far different light.

It will be recalled that this Journal reported that certain contractors' associations tended to ignore the unions concerned in the various branches of the industry. The theory that underlies NRA is that codes before submission should be the result of conferences as between employers and organized workers. In the submission of the old basic code and many of the supplemental codes, this principle was flagrantly ignored. The unions stubbornly resisted this trend. President Dan W. Tracy of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers strenuously led the fight not only in the electrical construction field but in the general melee for thoroughgoing recognition of the unions and for co-operative relations. That behind-the-scenes struggle represents an epochal chapter in the history of American labor. Never before had so many facts been marshalled, so many hidden resources of information been tapped, and so much real co-operation as between the unions of the building trades been achieved as in this hour of attack of the big anti-union employers upon the building trades. Many times the union heads took their case to Administrator Hugh S. Johnson, and once they went in a body to the White House and held a long conference with the President of the United States. President Roosevelt gave the unions every consideration, and assured them of his continued and personal interest in their problems. During the conference, Administrator Johnson decided to place all vexed problems pertaining to the construction industry in the hands of Major George L. Berry, recently elevated to Divisional Administrator of NRA. The unions were well satisfied with this, for they felt that Major Berry fully understood union problems as

---

**Long series of conferences between electrical contractors and union culminating in code, thought to make way for era of continued good feeling, and the stabilization of conference method.**

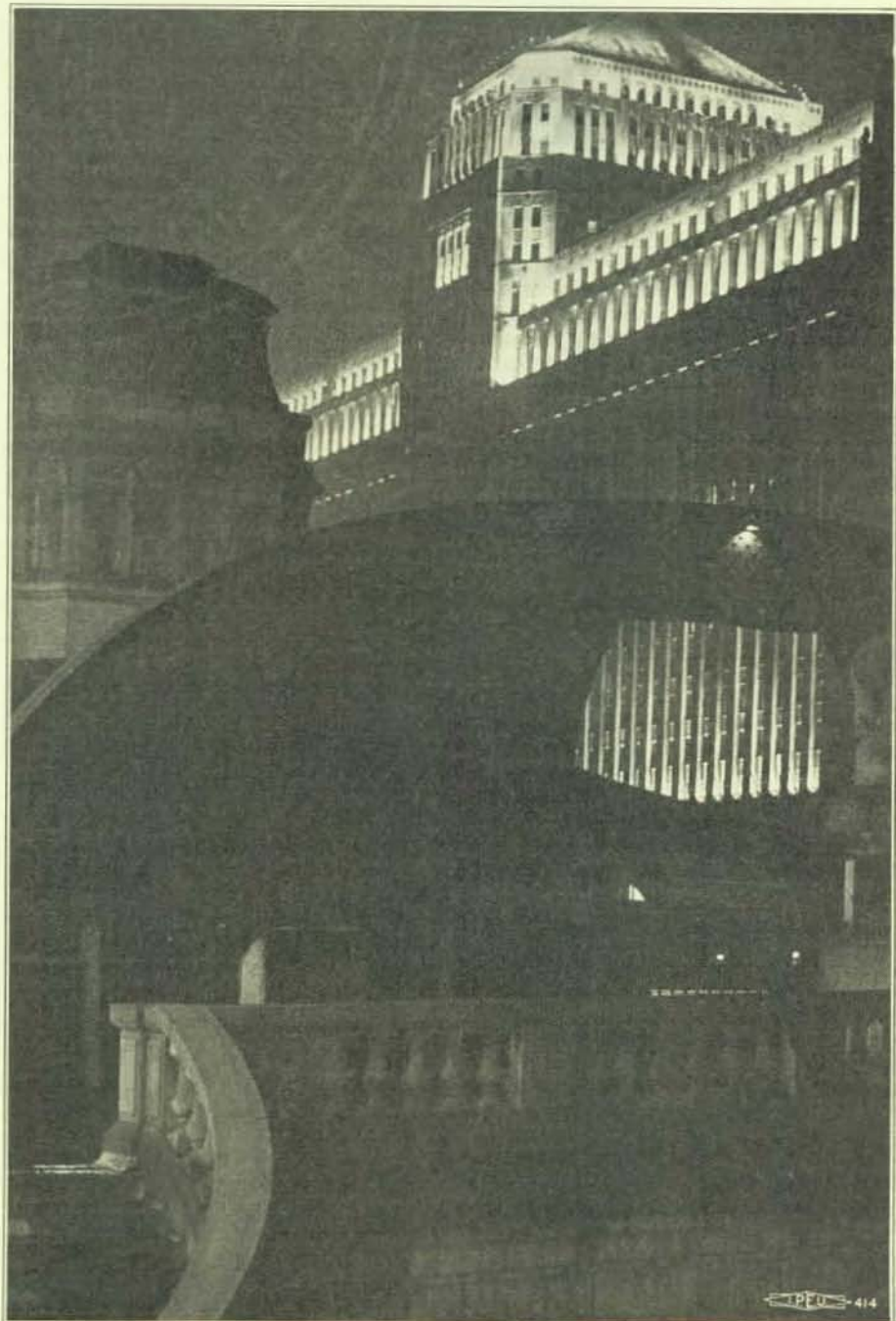
---

president of the pressmen's organization. Within a few days after Major Berry received the case, matters began

to adjust themselves and to clarify. As Assistant Administrator, Major Berry has proved a competent, resourceful, and efficient official. He has mastered complicated details quickly, showed large understanding of construction business, and kept a sympathetic attitude toward labor's case.

One of the features of the basic code as well as of the supplemental codes suggests that code framers have drawn a page from the successful history of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. A plan body is created composed of equal numbers of union

(Continued on page 94)



Night Magic as Revealed by the Camera's Searching Eye in Chicago. The Merchandise Mart in the Background, Union Wired and Maintained.

Chadde Photo



# Good Housing is a Matter of Good Income

By DR. ISADOR LUBIN, U. S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics

THE housing problem as I see it is primarily a problem of personal incomes. If our incomes were large enough I doubt whether we would have the problem of slum clearance that we must face during this generation. It is well enough to say that slums are the outcome of the gregariousness of given groups, that people will stick together and that they will live in congestion, but I think that all evidences prove that in those cases where incomes are sufficiently large to make it possible to buy decent housing for the families, those families will in virtually every case get such better housing. In other words, as I see it the problem right now is either to raise incomes to the point where our population can afford to pay for decent housing or, second, lower the cost of housing to the point where present incomes will make such housing possible.

Now the problem of incomes as it affects housing is primarily, as you will easily see, the problem of the wage of the lower salaried worker. He is not receiving enough to pay the rent required to get a decent place to live. I am not referring to the present 1933 nor to 1932. I am referring to the 10 years, 1920 to 1930. At no time during that decade of so-called prosperity did the average wage earners of the United States get enough income to make it possible for them to enjoy the type of housing which is required if we are going to do that thing the Secretary of Labor said: "Treat ourselves to some of our civilization."

Fortunately, during the past month the United States Department of Commerce has gotten up figures to give a picture of what the average wage earner in this country actually was receiving. I want to give you some of those figures, and then I want to compare those figures with what the various people in the United States in the lower income classes have had to pay for rent, and see then whether we can come to some conclusion as to what is the essential next step.

## Average Yearly Wage Now

If you take the figures of the United States Department of Commerce on national income you will find that the average income for the worker in a manufacturing industry, who was fully employed to the extent that his industry ran fully, was \$1,300 in 1929 at the height of prosperity. In 1932 that income had fallen to \$876. I want to emphasize those figures because I want to come back to them in a minute. Thirteen hundred dollars was the average income of the worker in a manufacturing industry in 1929 at the peak of prosperity, \$876 the year before last.

For other industries, such as mining, transportation, construction, and other industries of that sort, if you put them

---

**This is a closely reasoned, intensely valuable statement of just what faces the United States, if it is to do the social thing, and level slums.**

---

all together and got an average you would find that the average was approximately \$1,400, \$100 more for the construction, transportation and service industries than the average for manufacturing itself. In 1932 this figure had fallen to approximately \$950.

Those figures, as I say, are averages and being averages they were arrived at by bringing together the incomes of those who earned relatively more than \$1,400, with many of whom earned much less than \$1,400. They correspond rather accurately with similar figures that we have for the state of Ohio, which were received by the Ohio Industrial Commission, which show that the average for all employees in that state was approximately \$1,480 in 1929 and \$1,050 in 1932. But the thing that is worth while pointing out is that in the highest class of wage earners taken from the point of view of income, which in 1929 in the state of Ohio was the construction industry workers, the average was approximately \$1,650. In other words in that upper group of wage earners, in the industry that paid relatively the highest wage rates, the income per capita was only approximately \$1,650, the average for industry as a whole in the state being \$1,480.

Now, the question that immediately

arises is: How much of this \$1,400 is available for rent, how much can we expect the average wage earner to give up of this amount? And once we find out what that amount is, the second question arises: What can you give him for his money?

## Rents Take About One-Fifth

If you take the country as a whole you will find that, by and large, approximately 20 per cent of the wage earner's income is spent for rent. Such figures as are available both for the past and the present show tremendous variations. If you took the year 1918, for example, at the peak of war activity you would have found that approximately one-sixth of the wage earner's income went for rent, approximately 16.6 per cent, but if you went to various parts of the country you would have found tremendous variation. You would have found, for example, up in Bridgeport one out of every four dollars of income went for rent, 25 per cent of the wage earner's pay envelope going to his landlord.

Later studies, the most recent of which for wage earners was made in 1930 in the city of Detroit among Ford employees, after the building boom was over, when there was no shortage of housing, when facilities were available, in fact when there was very definite evidence of a surplus, if you took the city of Detroit in 1930 you would have found that the average Ford worker was earning approximately \$136 per month. Of this amount \$32.50 or 22.6 per cent was going for rent. This is a fairly high proportion, 22 per cent of one's income going to pay rent. If we cut that down to, say, approximately 20 per cent, which would be the average for all classes, the average Ford worker earning \$136 per month would have had to pay approximately \$28 per month for his rent.

Now if we move to another group of workers of a higher income class and with a higher standard (I refer particularly to governmental employees) we will find that there, too, an abnormally large proportion of their income goes for rent. In 1928 we found that in New Orleans approximately one out of every six dollars was going for rent among government workers. In the city of Baltimore approximately 22 per cent was going for rent.

During last autumn in the city of Washington, in investigating the cost of living, we found that the custodial workers, that group that was earning from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year, were on the average spending 23.8 per cent of their income for rent, almost a quarter out of every dollar among the workers who are earning from \$1,000 to \$1,500

(Continued on page 91)



DR. ISADOR LUBIN

U. S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics. He knows the Wage-Earners' Problems.



# Federal Housing Program to Go On

**T**HE federal public housing program is not to be halted. This has grown increasingly clear since the great conference held in Washington the last of January under the sponsorship of the National Public Housing Conference. This was essentially a quasi-public gathering. It brought together all the leaders in the federal housing program including Secretary of the Interior Ickes, representatives of the housing division of the federal government, Dr. Isador Lubin, Commissioner of Labor Statistics and chairman of the Labor Advisory Board of Public Works, and various public housing officials from important cities throughout the United States. This national conference was given added luster by the presence of the wife of the President of the United States.

Secretary of the Interior Ickes served notice on all reactionary elements who seek to put obstacles in the way of the fulfillment of this social program that it could not be halted. He asserted that the President of the United States was behind this program heart and soul and intended to see it through. Mr. Ickes said:

"When the federal government undertakes to do a thing it does not usually permit itself to be held back. And what is generally true of the federal government is particularly true of this administration. We have as President a man who keeps in direct and intimate touch with every phase of federal administration. Those of us who have the privilege of working under him never know when he is going to call on us for a report of progress or of accomplishment but we do know that sooner or later he will call upon us, perhaps at the most unexpected and inconvenient time. We have learned, too, that in some occult manner he manages to know as much or even more about what is going on in our departments than we know ourselves. The result is that we are kept on our toes and if we drive ourselves at our tasks for long hours we do it willingly and cheerfully in the knowledge that we are helping to translate into realities the dreams and aspirations of a President who is working harder and more smoothly and efficiently than any of us. So since the President has embarked on a program of slum clearance you may rest assured that the rest of us are for slum clearance and will do all we can to bring it about."

Then Mr. Ickes stressed anew the need for better housing conditions in the United States:

"One of our pressing and most important tasks in the establishment of this new social order is a revolutionary improvement in housing conditions in the United States. We want, and we must have, attractive low-cost housing for those in the lower income groups. For the more gregarious portions of our population or for those whose conditions of employment require that they live in the more crowded areas we must provide decent and livable apartments at rents within the reach of all. For those who

**Authorities view it as the cornerstone of the New Deal. Set-backs considered only temporary. Great conference at Washington focuses attention on essentials.**

more fortunately, as it seems to me, can use and enjoy a separate dwelling with a little plot of ground we must, where we can, provide homes adapted to their desires and to their ability to pay."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt stressed the need of the widespread housing program and warned that every western nation of the world had carried on such a program since the World War except the United States, and declared that in many nations such a housing program had to come by way of revolution.

The January conference was under the auspices of the National Public Housing Conference which is a national organization designed to arouse public opinion in behalf of a social program. It brought together representatives of labor, public official groups, the federal government, social workers, builder organizations, and other community agencies. Mr. M. J. McDonough, president of the building trades, spoke emphatically for the program and promised to place the entire labor movement behind it.

One of the newest movements in the social housing field centers in the organization of the National Association of Housing Officials. Chas. S. Ascher, executive director of this new organization, was present at the January con-



**HAROLD ICKES**

Secretary of the Interior. Known as an uncompromising fighter for public housing progress and for a new standard of conduct in public office.

ference and spoke for a housing program. The president of the National Association of Housing Officials is Ernest J. Bohn, city councilman of Cleveland, who has devoted so much energy and time to forward the movement in that city for slum clearance. The National Association of Housing Officials was organized only last November to serve as a clearing house for information primarily for public officials concerned with the administration of low-cost housing, rural and urban, and to aid in the development of administrative standards and sound procedures in the supervision, construction and operation of housing projects under public auspices.

Mrs. Mary Simkhovitch is president of the National Public Housing Conference, Miss Helen Alfred is secretary, and Herbert Bayard Swope is treasurer. A national radio hook-up made the important sessions of the conference available to millions of listeners. All the speakers stressed the social side of housing.

Mr. Swope said:

"No light; no heat; no hot water; in fact, little flowing water; few and antiquated sanitary facilities—these are the badges of shame that American cities still wear; these are the reproaches that 30 or 40 years of planning have not yet torn down."

Mr. Langdon Post, tenement house commissioner of New York City, dramatically revealed the social character of housing. He showed that a community is a community and that slums may be a menace to all. This is the story he related:

"Not so long ago in New York City a slum area which still exists within a block of the wealthiest section in the world, Wall Street, was partially helped by the benign and charitable efforts of the gentlemen doing business down there, because it was brought to their attention that the people who swept out their offices lived in an area that bred tuberculosis and other communicable diseases. This is an indication that if the more fortunate people in this country would fully realize the danger of the slum to their own existence they would, for this reason alone, abolish these sore spots."

Among the national associations taking part in the great national conference held at Washington which was viewed as an answer to reactionary forces throughout the nation opposing a social housing program were:

The Boston City Planning Board.  
Bricklayers', Masons' and Plasterers' Union.  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.  
U. S. Department of Labor.  
Russell Sage Foundation.  
The National Catholic School of Social Service.

(Continued on page 91)



# Workers' Education Bureau Makes Report

**A** REPORT on the activities of the Workers' Education Bureau of America has recently been issued by the executive committee of the bureau. By no means all of the education of workers in America is carried on through this bureau, for the major part of this work is carried on directly by organized labor through local unions, the magazines published by national and international unions, and the local labor press.

There has never been such an interest by workers in education as now. Depression years have burdened them with an excess of spare time, in which they can either worry and be miserable, or learn, study, make their minds grow, expand their mental horizons. A vehement need has been expressed which organized labor has done its best to appease.

The executive committee of the Workers' Education Bureau is composed of officers of various unions. William Green is honorary chairman. In the report of the bureau it is seen that in spite of a growing meagerness of finances, the bureau has carried on in the last four years—has—in fact, expanded its work to use the modern means of radio; has enlisted the co-operation of colleges and prominent educators; has in many ways proved its usefulness and justified its existence.

Through its news service, a feature of the International Labor News Service, the bureau has supplied information to local labor papers. A magazine service, designed especially to aid monthly journals of international and national unions, has featured particularly monthly articles by Prof. Irving Fisher entitled "Short Stories on Wealth." The Journal of Adult Education has generously devoted much of its space to reports on workers' educational activities made by members of the bureau.

## Colleges Co-operate

But more interesting and important have been the activities in direct education carried on by means of labor institutes, week-end conferences, summer schools, study groups and chatauquas. Many universities and colleges have co-operated in furnishing use of their facilities for summer schools for workers. In these activities the following developments have been noted: the lengthening of the period of time of the group meeting; the broadening of the subjects to be considered; and the co-operation with institutions of higher learning. Among such meetings which have been held with the active help of universities and colleges have been those at Meridian and Gulfport, Miss.; Mobile, Ala.; Chattanooga and Nashville, Tenn.; Springfield, Mass.; Worcester and Boston, Mass.; Syracuse, N. Y.; New York City, Fort Collins and Denver, Colo.; Madison, Wis.; New Haven, Conn.; Chi-

---

**Has carried on in spite of depression. Aided by Carnegie corporation. Has varied activities.**

---

cago, Ill.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Newark and Trenton, N. J.

Programs of radio broadcasts were arranged with the co-operation of the Columbia Broadcasting System. These consisted of series of 10 lectures, given by prominent labor men, one lecture each week at the same hour. The subjects chosen were intended to appeal to the unorganized workers as well as organized. Several of the radio addresses were reprinted in pamphlet form by the University of Chicago Press.

Other publications, results of surveys, proceedings of labor institutes, and economic reviews have been sponsored by the bureau and distributed to unions, libraries, government departments, workers' study classes and other

groups. A co-operative book service has been developed for use of workers' classes.

Because of a gradually declining membership, both of individuals and groups, the bureau has had to curtail activities to hold down its expenditures. This has made impossible the employment of needed field workers and has resulted in the discontinuance of the research bureau. Because of the continuous and increasing falling off in receipts the organization has had to finance itself by grants from the Carnegie Corporation, which has granted, during the past three years a total of \$39,000.

## In Behalf of Amusement

In order that our locals giving progressive bridge parties may have appropriate and decorative equipment, we have secured card decks bearing the Brotherhood's seal, and the union label. These can be had at 75c a pack.

## United States Government Calls Conference on Workers' Education

Secretary of Labor Miss Frances Perkins and Commissioner of Education George F. Zook co-operated in calling a conference on workers' education, held in Washington, February 2.

The call for the conference said:

"The Federal Government through the Federal Economy Relief Administration is aiding workers' education through a grant of funds to pay the salaries of unemployed teachers for adult groups. It is necessary now to formulate a definite program so that demonstration centers may be set up, study material made available, teacher training provided for, and contact with workers' groups established."

The agenda for the conference is as follows:

- I. INTRODUCTION: Secretary Perkins and Commissioner Zook.
- II. PROGRAM OF ACTION TO BE DISCUSSED:
  1. The organization of a national advisory committee on workers' education to make definite plans and help in carrying them out, in co-operation with the Labor Department and the Office of Education.
  2. The program to be developed:
 

Definite needs and how they may be met:

    - A. The need for material in workers' classes:
 

Miss Eleanor G. Coit, Affiliated Schools for Workers.  
Miss Julia Merrill, American Library Association.  
Dr. Harold Rugg, Council on Economic Policy.
    - B. The need of teachers' training:
 

Miss Anna Owers, Civil Works Administration, Pennsylvania.  
Miss Caroline Whipple, New York State Board of Education.  
Dr. George Zehmer, University of Virginia.
    - C. Contacts with the labor movement:
 

Mr. M. H. Hedges, Electrical Workers' Union.  
Miss Mary Barker, Teachers Union.
    - D. The need of supervision:
 

Miss Hilda W. Smith, Federal Relief Administration.
- III. DEVELOPMENT OF DEMONSTRATION CENTERS:
 

The development of demonstration centers in six or seven communities where conditions are favorable for experimentation.
- IV. POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT:
 

The possibility of future appropriations for the development of workers' education projects through resident schools and local classes. The appointment of a special committee to study the first steps in securing such financial support.



# Gird to Turn Back Fascism

**M**ARKED fascist propaganda under the guise of semi-official friendship is being exposed and denounced by labor and liberal groups in the United States. These groups see a stimulation of Fascist organization by foreign visitors. One group has protested to the State Department against activities of Piero Parini, Italian leader, and President William Green, American Federation of Labor, has denounced activities of Hitler supporters.

A formal demand that State Department officials take steps to deport Piero Parini, formerly head of the department of propaganda under the Mussolini government, who is said to have come to the United States to promote among Italians here the doctrines of fascism, was presented in the form of a petition submitted to the department. The petition, signed by a group of Washington anti-fascists, and headed by Charles Edward Russell, journalist and author, alleges that Parini is urging Italians here to maintain allegiance to the Mussolini government.

Copies of the petition were also sent to the Secretary of Labor, the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, and the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

The petition reads, in part, as follows: "There has lately arrived in the United States from Italy Mr. Piero Parini. This gentleman was in Italy the head of the department of propaganda for Fascism. The purpose of his visit is explained as merely personal. In point of fact we believe that he has come to further in this country the doctrines he has industriously fostered at home.

## Questionable Tactics

"The principles of this propaganda have been officially proclaimed in Rome and are indubitable. They include the diligent instruction of Americans of Italian birth that they should maintain an allegiance to the government of a foreign power, that they should hold themselves under the orders of the representatives of that power, that they should refrain from concerning themselves with the internal policies of the country in which they have been naturalized and to which they have sworn an unqualified allegiance. We believe that these doctrines are utterly subversive of true and dependable loyalty to the United States on the part of whomsoever may endorse them.

"It is doubtless well known to you that there exists already in this country an organization with the avowed purpose of spreading this creed of alien fealty. Mr. Parini has already addressed himself to this element. Because of his position at home and his prestige as part of the Italian government organization, such advocacy on his part is fraught with danger to American institutions. We, therefore, petition that his visit may be

**Labor and liberal elements in the United States demand that imported lecturers, agitators and propagandists conform to custom and law.**

made the subject of inquiry, and if our charges are found to be true, he be deported. We are prepared to submit evidence of the truth of what we have averred here."

Similar complaints, it is stated, are being forwarded by other organizations.

Germany's new Nazi labor code, under which trade unions are abolished and strikes and collective bargaining outlawed, was declared the "finishing touch" in reducing German labor to servitude, in a statement by President William Green, of the American Federation of Labor. He denounced the code as meaning "enslavement and autocratic control" for the German workers.

"The new decree," said Mr. Green, "abolishes all the rights and privileges upon which the organized labor movement of Germany rested. It completely annihilates labor unions, prohibits strikes, does away with collective bar-

(Continued on page 87)



The Mountebank of the World Returns to Style and Pomp of the Middle Ages.

Labor



# Radio Men Stir as Code Blasts Justice

THE great new industry—radio—is seldom seen from the point of view of the man who operates the broadcast station. Below is given a letter—representative, we believe—sent by a broadcast technician to WCFL, the voice of labor, Chicago. It throws vivid light on conditions in this industry, and incidentally becomes a document crying for unionization:

"January 13, 1934.

"Station WCFL,  
Chicago, Ill.

"Dear Friend:

"Thank you for your letter of November 18 last. My delay in answering it has been due to the fact that I have been expecting to hear from Mr. McLean, the labor organizer you referred my letter to. So far I have not heard from him at all.

"Our condition here has not been changed except whereas two months ago we had six men in the technical department, we now have only five. The code did not raise anyone's salary. The chief here makes about \$150 or \$175 per month, one unlicensed man makes \$65 per month and the other three of us get \$85 each. What do you think of that for being in the money? We work for —, a 500-watt station that is full time except for two hours each week, which it has to give to — at —. The fact that they have to share this little bit of time gives them the right to pay us at the rate of \$20 a week instead of \$30. They say that they can't afford to pay any more, but that they realize we are worth more. In other words they want us to be satisfied and work like hell for nothing but the promise of a raise just as soon as the station is making a lot of money.

"I do not know what the code investigation will disclose here when they get around to it, but I have about lost faith in it so far as we are concerned. It seems that there are too many holes to crawl through if a manager is the type that would take advantage of the opportunity to crawl out.

## Asks For Unionization

"I should like to know what the possibilities are for getting all the operators in the city to organize with your federation, and thus force a decent wage and hour scale here. I think, from what I understand, that most of the operators are in favor of the union. Two of the operators here signed whatever agreement it was that the federation circulated just before the code hearing. At the time that came around, I was not working here, and so I am not on that list, but I understand that nearly every other operator in the city did sign. There are five stations here, including the police and airport stations. I think that if everyone would join, there would be about 20 or 25 in all. Do you think that is enough to unionize?

"I do not blame the radio industry

for the condition that exists here. I think there is a future in radio, and I love the work better than anything else,

under the average conditions, but I do think that operators get a bad deal in a

(Continued on page 91)

## Union Contractor Wins Distinction



Courtesy Electrical Contracting  
G. M. SANBORN

For years the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has enjoyed pleasant and profitable relations with G. M. Sanborn, electrical contractor, Indianapolis. His many friends in the union will be gratified at recognition of his talents, which has been recently accorded Mr. Sanborn. Mr. Sanborn has been awarded the 1933 James H. McGraw contractor-dealer's medal and purse. The awarding committee said:

"One—As chairman of the committee on underwriters rules he found the electrical contractor with no voice in making the rules for the inspection of installations and at the mercy of the insurance inspectors, without recourse from arbitrary and personal interpretations of the code. He won recognition for the contractor in this function and brought about the establishment of a Court of Appeals to hear cases of unfair or incorrect ruling, which later was led to collaborate by his committee in revising the code and making new rules.

"Two—as chairman of the sales and data book committee, at the time that the installation of electrical wiring in pipe became general, he realized the waste of time and effort and the loss of money involved in the absence of any accepted standard for the calculation of conduit sizes to suit the various combinations of conductors, as a result of which estimates of cost were distorted by the natural variance in the judgment of the estimators. He therefore instituted a study of contemporary experience and by a series of tests developed a chart to indicate the proper conduit sizes to be used under the full sweep of working conditions. These were distributed, adopted and later incorporated into the National Code and are now in use to the great practical advantage of the contractor.

"Three—In the same spirit of responsibility for the advancement of the art, he recognized the handicap under which the construction industry was working because of the confusion of symbols used by engineers and architects in indicating electrical work on building plans. He conceived the necessity for a universal system and obtained authorization from the N. E. C. A. to develop an industry procedure for the project. Through his ingenious diplomacy and intelligent leadership, he succeeded in developing a co-operation with the American Institute of Architects, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and the United States Army, Navy and Treasury Departments to the end that a comprehensive survey was conducted and final agreement obtained upon the basic symbols now universally employed. These standard symbols for wiring plans he carried through a further revision in the years 1922 to 1924, and finally established as a national standard under the American Standards Association.

"Since that time he has continued as chairman of the N. E. C. A. committee on standard symbols, developing, maintaining and defending this alphabet of electrical construction and encouraging the simplification of wiring plans and specifications by resisting the attacks of enthusiastic advocates of confusing innovations."



# Secretary's Report Viewed as Notable

**"THE** use of government purchasing power for supplies and equipment to maintain high industrial standards."

This resounding announcement of policy in the U. S. Department of Labor, taken from the Secretary's report to Congress, marks an innovation. It appears to mean but one thing, namely, that the U. S. Government does not intend to encourage sweat shops, the production of substandard materials, or low standard performance in particular by purchasing from firms perpetuating these barbarisms.

The report of the Secretary of Labor, though made to Congress late in January, is still attracting widespread attention. The Secretary said:

In presenting to the Congress of the United States the Twenty-first Annual report of the Secretary of Labor, it seems appropriate to point out that the United States Department of Labor is dedicated to the working people of America, and is being administered for their economic advancement and their protection physically. As the Honorable William B. Wilson, first Secretary of Labor, said in his initial report: "The purpose of the Department of Labor shall be to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment."

Since he quoted the organic act, we have been through a great war, a period of great prosperity, and a great depression. Perhaps it is of even more importance now than ever before, because of the troubles and problems left in the wake of these great catastrophes, that the Department of Labor be administered in "the interest of the welfare of all of the wage earners of the United States, whether organized or unorganized", as Secretary Wilson pointed out 20 years ago. The department, moreover, must be administered in fairness between worker and employer, between employer and employer, and between each and the public as a whole if it is to accomplish its purpose as set forth by the Congress. Only by doing so in harmony with the welfare of all workers and with legitimate business can the best interests of the country be served.

The idea is now generally held that employers have a certain public social responsibility in the conduct of their industries. Wage earners as well as government agencies should be a factor in formulating these policies of public responsibility and they should be invited and permitted to make constructive con-

**U. S. Labor Department inaugurates forward, aggressive policy. Shows force to those employers who fail to take social view of job.**

tribution in solving the economic problems that confront us on the industrial side of our national life.

As a nation we are recognizing that programs long thought of as merely labor welfare, such as shorter hours,



FRANCES PERKINS  
U. S. Secretary of Labor.

higher wages, and a voice in the terms and conditions of work, are really essential economic factors for recovery and for the technique of industrial management in a mass-production age. The test of adjusting our industrial life to the patterns of democracy and the needs of a new mechanical period mark both a gain in the standards of life and work for wage earners and also a new responsibility for constructive leadership on the part of labor.

We cannot have the purchasing power necessary to balance our production capacity unless we develop opportunities for leisure. All these, with the interests of all the people considered, the Department of Labor is striving to promote.

The following recommendations are made in view of the outstanding need of the present day of fostering, promoting, and developing the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, improving their working conditions, and advancing their opportunities for profitable employment as the organic act demands:

1. **Employment Service**—Use by wage earners and employers of the facilities of the United States Employment Service developed in co-operation with the States should aid both groups and the country as a whole.

2. **Mediation**—It is essential to a democracy that its workers develop the discipline and technique of dealing with each other successfully on controversial matters. In times of stress such as these, it is essential that wage earners and employers agree with each other quickly and with justice.

3. **Unemployment Insurance**—

Some form of unemployment reserves should be set up in the different states so that in the future it may take the place of the bread line or other charities as a systematic, honorable method of tiding over a slump period for those who want work and lack it. No one has yet found a cure for unemployment, although we are experimenting in that direction under the National Recovery Act. In urging unemployment reserves I realize that its adoption would not mean the throwing up of economic bulwarks for all wage earners.

4. **Stabilization of Employment**

—Better planning of production on the part of management should go a long way toward stabilizing employment in certain industries.

5. **Low Cost Housing**—A sound objective in the United States of America and one desperately needed is to provide every workingman's family with a comfortable, well-planned home and to eliminate slum districts.

6. **Safety of workers**—Modern industry has done much to improve working conditions, but much still remains to be done to provide for greater protection of the men and women who toil in the factories, mines and stores.

7. **State and Federal Co-operation**—Greater co-operation between the state and federal labor departments would be of high value to the country's wage earners, employers, and the general public.

8. **Old-age Security**—The old-age security idea has gained many followers in this country in recent years. People who are past the years when they are expected to work hard should have some sort of security. They should not

(Continued on page 93)



# Let's Go Deep Into Bare Neutral Business

By RESEARCHER

SO many and such varied inquiries have been received from our members in addition to scores from non-members, regarding so-called bare-neutral wiring, its history and nature, that we have found it desirable to extend our research in the interest of bringing out the truth of this matter. We found this truth hidden in a maze of mis-statements and propaganda and found many well-informed persons reluctant to tell what they knew because of pressure to which they had been subjected to prevent them from stating facts or their own opinions, or because of fear of such pressure. What the nature of such pressure has been will be mentioned, but not at length in what follows.

One-way wiring seems to describe this general type, since its characteristic is that it does not provide return wiring of a kind which confines the electrical return current to itself.

## 1. Legal Aspects

1. Of course, the idea of one-way wiring, by whatever catch-name described according to time and occasion, is not new. It was contemporaneous with the beginning of the art of wiring. The idea appears in some early practice in almost every branch of this wiring art. But before we consider its appearance and its disposal in these branches, let us note some underlying and fundamental proposals, practices and legal decisions, even before most of the present-day branches of wiring were developed. These early considerations of one-way wiring were mainly grouped about telegraph and telephone circuits versus electric railway ones. The trend of court decisions throughout the English-speaking countries may be best indicated by quotations. For citations and treatment, a whole field of law on negligence and responsibility must be explored. This will be done. The following are a few of the quotations well to have in mind:

### Likened to Wild Beast

(a) "The defendant does not leave the natural forces of matter free to act unaffected by any interference on its part. It generates and accumulates electricity in large and turbulent quantities, and then allows it to escape upon the premises occupied by the plaintiff to its damage \* \* \*. One cannot discharge it in such quantities that it will inundate his neighbor's lands and destroy his property, and shield himself from liability by the plea that it was not his own act, but an inexorable law of nature that caused the damage. \* \* \*. There would seem no great hardship in imposing upon him the same duty which is exacted of the owner of accumulated water power;—that of providing an artificial conduit for the artificial product, if

**Legal aspects, history, issues, technical background and high politics of one-way wiring reviewed by authority in the field. This Journal takes pleasure in publishing this valuable discussion.**

necessary to prevent injury to others." (People versus C. V. O'Brien, 111 N. Y. 1, 1888, 18 N. E. 692.)

(b) "A current of electricity powerful enough to destroy human life or to inflict serious injury may be likened to a wild beast and defendant had no right negligently to maintain a means for the escape from proper confinement of a thing so dangerous." (Goodwin versus Columbia Tel. Co., 157 Mo. App. 596, 138 S. W. 940.) (See, also, many others in Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Indiana, Iowa, Pennsylvania, etc.)

(c) "The highly dangerous and subtle nature of electricity has compelled the courts of this state to require of persons who make merchandise of it and who transmit it along the public thoroughfares of the populous communities, the exercise of the highest degree of care to prevent its escape from appointed channels."

(d) See the "Rule of Rylands versus Fletcher," by Professor Francis H. Bohlan, University of Pennsylvania Law Review and American Law Register, Volume 59. See, also, Peoria Waterworks Co. versus Peoria Ry. Co., 181 Fed. Rep. 990, 1004 (1910), etc.

(e) Careful students of the rights and powers, versus the duties and obligations involved in promoting and using one-way wiring, will find a fruitful field of fundamental reasoning in the legal citations and in the law works of Deiser, Joyce, Curtis and others. The line drawn where the injury or threat is to "private property" as against public ways or property on public ways (by franchise) is interesting and significant.

## 2. Practice of Various Nations

2. Early rules for interior wiring in the United States called for insulating coverings and maintained insulation of all wires, and for them to be kept free from contact with gas, water or other metallic piping or other conductors by a fixed non-conductor, etc. And the whole installation was required to test free from "grounds." (See National rules 1881-1895-on.) Yet even in 1881 the supply was sometimes from "grounded" circuits in the streets (See N. Y. C.—1881 rules). It was the interior wiring which the rules dealt with. Early practice in the United States never developed

concentric wires to any extent for interior wiring, and only for conduit use, for which such concentric wires were recognized from 1897 to 1913, when mention ceased. All such wires were required to have both conductors fully insulated (coverings).

In marine wiring a small use of concentric wire was developed early—the wire being fully insulated in most early cases (and in all later cases in English-speaking countries).

A certain amount of use of concentric wire developed on the continent. Inquiry into the extent and character of this practice elicited response (1929) from the Berliner Stadtische Elektrizitatswerke—A K T—Geo, including the statement:

"The employment of concentric wires using the exposed metal sheath for normal current carrying is not permitted in the Berlin district nor generally in Germany. In a few cities such is allowed for dry rooms only and only where sheath is a true neutral (not for two wire circuits). The reason why employment of this type of wiring has been largely prohibited and restricted in Germany is that it is difficult to produce good, reliable joints of the exposed sheath—continuity may easily be destroyed by mechanical, chemical or other influences. When interrupted it brings danger of personal injury or material damage. This danger is the greater because often not detected in time—etc."

The growth in Germany of the practice of maintaining all circuit wires insulated (not grounded even outside), with relay operating to de-energize all or some circuits if they become accidentally grounded may be noted (see books by T. C. Gilbert, also England and German sources from which he quotes).

In England the extent and character of this concentric wiring practice and the public attitude toward it are best described by quoting from authorities.

From D. S. Munro, 11 Randolph Place, Edinburgh, 1928:

"My father took out what I believe the first patent for a concentric wiring system in 1883, and I also designed one a good many years ago. So I might be expected to have at least a sentimental interest in advocating that system. However, I would say that my experience is that the concentric system is not one which should be generally adopted or even permitted on all the complicated, varying conditions of general supply. If given official sanction, this system might afford opportunity for one or two manufacturing firms to specialize in the joint boxes, bonds, bridging pieces, etc. (note how in U. S. this has recently been done—see below), but the general advantages of the system are more apparent (sic) than real, and any vogue would I fear be temporary."

"In the early days of wiring development there was a greater proportion of concentric wiring and the idea was consistently carried throughout all fittings,



flexible cords, lampholders, etc. That would be difficult to do nowadays. In ships, of course, the system was quite popular for a number of years, and even there, where the conditions were more suitable, it is practically obsolete.

### Insulation Breaks Down

"There are mechanical stresses which tend to break down the insulation at bends and there is unequal expansion of inner and outer conductors. The outer conductor has got to be interrupted and therefore bonded again at every point where access is required to the live wire and there are awkward complications whenever one requires to control, say, an ordinary fitting from, say, two or more points.

"My experience is that there is no reduction in labor costs but there is considerable increased risk of breakdown. With modern steel buildings, if concentric wiring was much used, there might be temptation for an unscrupulous erector to omit sections of the outer conductor and simply attach to the building framework or gas or water pipes wherever he wanted to place a switch or light.

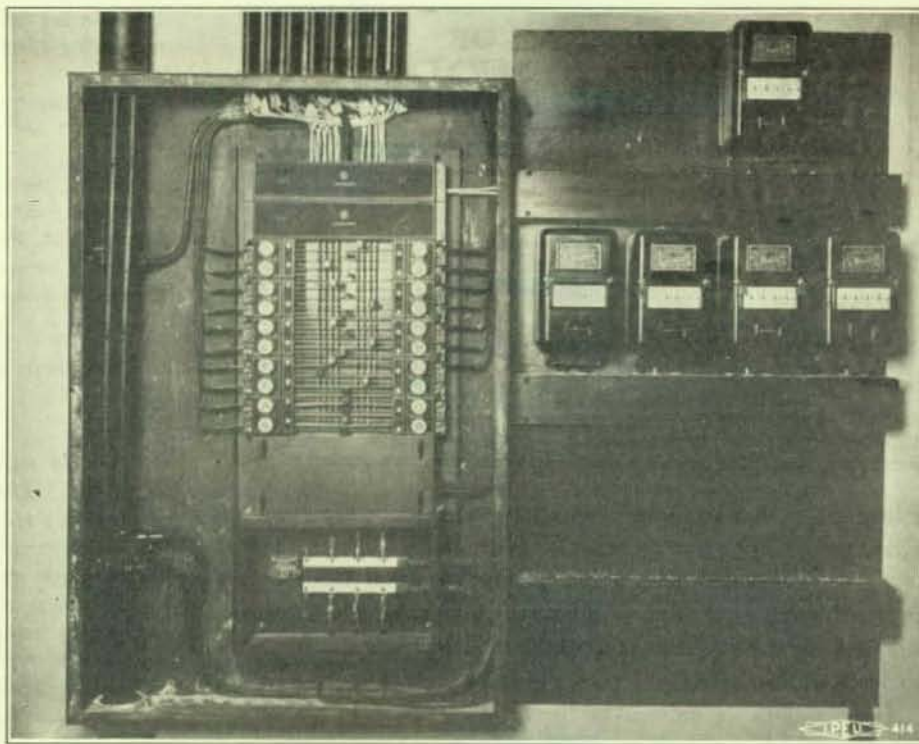
"The I. E. E. regulations, adopted as national standard by municipalities, supply companies and insurance companies, cover this matter."

(These regulations permit this practice, for isolated buildings where interior wiring is electrically isolated from mains—by transformers, etc.)

Another English writer, T. C. Gilbert, 26 Guildhall St., Folkestone, 1933, is actively promoting, for English practice, the extensive German practice of using relays to open circuits if the insulated circuit wires become accidentally grounded. The sensitivity is such that even if a "grounded" person touches an isolated section of metal enclosure for wires (conduit or motor fixture frame), the current flowing will operate the relay and open the circuit before injury to the person can occur—a very small current.

### 3. Practice as Applied to Structures

3. As to using steel frame of a building. This has been proposed, usually facetiously or idealistically, many times. Inquiries do not reveal that this has ever been followed as a practice, nor has such a practice been recognized by codes in this country. Nor has National Electrical Code permission been proposed or given. In certain cases, faults with current escapes and incidental shunting of current return through portions of metal building frames have been suspected and located, sometimes through lack of inspection or carelessness enduring for a season. What damage has thus occurred is not separately recorded. Some damages have been recorded, including fires, personal injuries and false circuit operations from such faults, and their accidental continuance. Careful search of many fire and injury records would locate a number of such instances. Both a. c. and d. c. are involved, the latter more frequently and with larger volume of current. The steel frame of a



Hedrich-Blessing Photo

Rigid Conduit Is Not Only a Safety Wiring Type, But It Lends Itself to Workmanly Job, and Appeals to Every Instinct for Good Workmanship in the Wireman.

building may or may not provide a reliable return for a one-way circuit, according to the amount of current, its kind, and the condition of original bonding and its maintenance, between different elements of the steel frame. Trolley feeder failures have (often) located weak electrical bonds in steel sheathing, cornices and less often in frames. In New York City today, for instance, no such return is sanctioned, none has been proposed, none is known to exist, but the authorities state that careful widespread surveys would probably locate more than one accidental case (mostly shunting part—not all—of return current), the damage from which can only be conjectured.

### 4. Practice as Applied to Ships

4. As to using steel hull of a ship for either a. c. or d. c. return for a one-way circuit. This, for a steel framed and sheathed ship has always been a temptation, and early usage recognized and practiced such a return. Even here, however, the caulking and other discontinuities, augmented by ship movements, rather early called for a known, maintainable wire return and this was accomplished at times, at first, by bare concentric or other bare wire return, to make the circuit, at least in part, a two-way one (shunting with frame as varying discontinuities permitted).

Early rules of Lloyds, Bureau Veritas and certain other rule making bodies did not rule against such practices. However, the National Fire Protection Association marine rules, even from their earliest year (1895), required maintained insulation of all wires, and from 1901

on, have required regular tests to assure this maintained freedom from grounds. The text of the present American Institute of Electrical Engineers' marine rules, adopted by N. F. P. A., states, "All circuits shall be completely metallic and no ground return should be employed except for aerial or submarine transmission."

### Clear Ruling Given

As to practice—the statement of General Hoover, of Steamboat Inspection Service, 1928, to Bureau of Standards was "It is present good practice not to ground any circuit wire on shipboard, except possibly in the case of 110-220-volt systems where neutral may be grounded at one point near the generator. As a general rule, circuit wires on shipboard are all insulated and carefully kept clear of all accidental grounds. In the past, a single insulated wire system (one-way) using the ship structure as return or a conductor grounded to the ship's structure as return was used. This practice has been superseded on boats coming under the attention of the Steamboat Inspection Service."

Capt. F. Lyon, U. S. Navy, 1929, writes, "You are informed that so far as known, the practice in the Navy has been never to use the ship's hull as a return circuit in the distribution of electric lighting and power. All circuits used have been insulated and kept as free from grounds as possible."

Even fire detection systems on Shipboard, by A. I. E. E. and N. F. P. A. standards "shall be normally free of electrical grounds." (This to assure reliable operation.)

(Continued on page 88)



# JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Official Publication International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Devoted  
to the  
Cause



of  
Organized  
Labor

Volume XXXIII. Washington, D. C., February, 1934 No. 2

**Plastic Chance** In a real sense, conditions in America are plastic. They can be shaped. Now is the time to shape them. This is the reason that what labor does in the coming year is so significant. Labor may be casting the deciding card to determine the kind of civilization we are to have in America.

Local unions should not be inert, downcast or indifferent. They should be on their toes every minute. They should be pushing for representation on every community board or commission. They should demand representation—real representation—on municipal, state or federal housing, labor, compliance or other bodies. Only in this way can representative government be upheld, and Fascism foiled.

**New Classification** There was a time when economists spoke of the low-paid workers. Now they are forced to adopt a new classification. The no-income class of wage-earners. What a commentary upon current economy. The economic machine is so in need of repair that it can not feed, clothe or shelter a great section of the population. President Roosevelt's masterful efforts have kept this vast group from starving, but the major problem is yet to be solved. Can the present system feed, clothe and shelter every man, woman and child?

**The Way of Health** Mr. Ordway Tead, a thoughtful and just thinker and writer, presented a paper before the Taylor Society, of far-reaching importance. (This was afterwards published in the American Federationist.) This paper seeks to point the way to America—the way of healthy, sane, democratic development—away from economic Fascism. Mr. Tead believes we have a chance in America to solve our difficulties without madness or dictatorship. His solution is that of tripartite guildism. But we must do several important things.

1. Force all business into trade associations.
2. Give workers free and untrammelled right to organize.

"By the same token, it seems to me, second, to require that the sooner opposition to the effort of workers to organize is recognized as futile, the better off we will be. Such opposition is dangerously obstructive, anti-social and anti-demo-

cratic in the light of the economic forces now at work and now being furthered at Washington."

3. Ostracize the company union.

"Indeed, the more the obstruction and the more the effort to make company unions a substitute for industry-wide organization, the more will we face conflict, bitterness, failure to secure the co-operation of labor, and, of course, threats of violence or worse."

4. Strengthen consumer consciousness, organization and control.

"It is the active, strong presence of the consumer interest in the NRA and in regulative code bodies, which can help to get away from the difficulties of restrictive practice that the usual cartels have disclosed.

"A fourth related and immediate requirement would be at once to provide that all the national and district code authorities and labor boards should be tripartite bodies, specifically representing not only employers but wage-workers and consumers. And this same provision as to representative membership should probably be extended at once to the compliance boards, whether they are set up as governmental or decentralized bodies."

This appears the way of sense. We must point out that this JOURNAL has repeatedly declared that consumers' co-operatives must be formed; labor strengthened; and government socialized. These three groups, and these three groups alone, can save America from an unsatisfactory fate.

**Gifts For a President** President Roosevelt has won and deserves the plaudits of a nation. His geniality, patience, high ardor, love of humanity make him no ordinary leader, and set a lofty example for a discouraged people to follow. Such high qualities as his, and such high achievements deserve tributes—more tributes than mere conventional display of birthday finery.

There is little doubt that the President could have done even more than he has, if he had been backed by New-Deal-opinion and New-Deal-organization. The magnitude of his achievement grows, as one considers that the nation was not quite ready for a Franklin Roosevelt.

What, then, could America give Franklin D. Roosevelt that he would like best? We believe it could give him (as we said before) a growing social consciousness. That is not a vague, mystical gift. When translated into action, it means (1) a growing consumers' movement, actual organization of consumers' co-operatives, and the strengthening of those which now exist; (2) an ever-increasing labor movement—mobile, resourceful and impregnable; (3) and a new entente between them strengthening the government, and transforming it from an anti-social instrument of a special class, into a social tool of the nation.

If Americans wish to bring permanent gifts to their President, let them bring him new consumers' organizations, new local unions, and a new social outlook.



**Linemen to the Front** Linemen can be gratified that shifting circumstances have given them a new place of power. As electricity becomes the center of modern civilization, its generation and transmission become increasingly more important. The tradition and the necessity of the electric utility business center in keeping the channels of power free and uninterrupted. It is the lineman largely who is charged with this responsibility. He it is who must face the hazards of storm, wind and flood, end the trouble, and see to it that the priceless energy keeps flowing to its many important destinations. The housewife, the physician, the policeman, the fireman, the nurse, the locomotive engineer, as well as countless others, wait upon the work of the lineman. He must not fail them. Homes, hospitals, police stations, fire houses, trains depend upon electrical energy. Our communities are electrified centers.

Linemen will arise to their new responsibilities as they have met the old. They will familiarize themselves with modern thought and science, and fit themselves to take new positions of power.

**Hitlerism Unmasked** Hitler has given a recipe for fooling all the people all the time. It is to tell thundering big lies. Little lies are not enough, he says; because the common herd is used to little lies, and will see through them. The bigger, the better. His policy has been followed faithfully. This policy it was which placed the biggest faker of history in a place of strategic power. Now as he settles himself more firmly in the saddle, he begins to reveal his true color, and to expose his true master. Big business speaks through Hitler as surely as it speaks through Walter Gordon Merritt and James Emery. Recently his platform-maker, Gottfried Feder, told a group of business men "The labor front has nothing to say in respect to business leadership", and again, "The state must not engage in business itself as a competitor."

This same mouthpiece of Hitler was campaigning a year ago upon the platform of complete nationalization of trade.

**Wall Street Hears About the Revolution** The following is so delicious, we can not keep it longer to ourselves. It appeared early in January in the correspondence column of the Wall Street Journal.

"What the 'masses of men' are demanding is not 'gimme' but 'gimme back.' They demand the restitution of stolen goods. It may be unfortunate that a part of the stealings have been passed along to innocent holders for value.

"It is as old as history that the strongest and most unscrupulous individuals periodically accumulate, either by force or fraud, the bulk of the things which constitute wealth. They then desire to perpetuate their position. At this stage we hear much of vested rights.

"This cycle rolls along until the burden of supporting the superior horse-thieves becomes intolerable to the mental

incompetents who make up the mass of people. Not controlling the governmental functions, which by this time have all gotten into the hands of the privileged, and possessing neither ability to reason nor self-control, a cycle of revolution or rebellion sets in. A clean-up of the privileged follows in which the most elemental passions are indulged.

"Then, little by little, the strong and smart individuals again set about depriving the incompetents of their goods or lands and slowly rebuild the scenery for another revolution.

"Like your author, I do not see any more intellectual honesty in the rebels imputing high motives to their rebellion while in progress, than for the international bankers to preach through their spokesman equally dishonest platitudes during the periods of lamb-shearing.

"It appearing at present that we are in the early stages of one of these periodical overthrows, no fair person can criticize Mr. Woodlock for expressing dissent against the process. It seems to me that the class for which Mr. Woodlock speaks are exceptionally fortunate in the unusual amount of restraint shown by the present rebels. In other days and countries the slogan was not merely 'gimme back the stolen goods,' but 'gimme your head,' as well."

We agree that the American masses have been very patient—and intelligent.

**The New Inflation** The wage question becomes more complicated. A new inflation has begun. When America went off the gold standard in March, 1933, there was a slight inflation of the American dollar. Following this came the passage of the National Industrial Recovery Act, and the NRA. Under NRA, the cost of living rapidly ascended so the total purchasing power of the American people could not, and did not keep pace. Now with the new gold act, a new inflation begins. What does this mean? It means that the wage-earner is going to be triply penalized. As always, under the present system, he is to take the gaff. Figures published elsewhere in this JOURNAL, taken from the United States Department of Commerce's new income distribution study, indicate that labor has been paying through the nose since October, 1929.

**More Money Needed** American labor has a responsibility to itself and to the United States Department of Labor which must not be overlooked. We refer to the need of adequate funds to make a new cost of living survey throughout the United States. It is apparent that wages can not be adjusted justly and intelligently without correct cost of living figures. The present cost of living figures are based upon a study made as far back as 1918, and naturally the standards which prevailed at that time are old-fashioned as compared with the needs of 1934. When that cost of living survey was made in 1918 it cost \$480,000. The present Congress wants the U. S. Department of Labor to make a survey for 1934 for the inadequate sum of \$140,000. It can not be done. Labor should seek new funds for this purpose from this Congress. While labor does not believe that wages can be justly based upon cost of living figures alone, cost of living always remains an important factor.





# WOMAN'S WORK



## ECONOMIC SECURITY REQUISITE OF "A MORE ABUNDANT LIFE"

By A WORKER'S WIFE

**P**RESIDENT ROOSEVELT is particularly adept at coining phrases. His "New Deal" has become a household phrase, not only in this country but wherever the printed word penetrates.

In an address before the special meeting of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, he spoke these telling words:

"If I were asked to state the great objective which church and state are both demanding for the sake of every man and woman and child in this country, I would say that that great objective is 'a more abundant life.'"

Now we who have been living in want but in the midst of material abundance, we housewives who have had to stretch our pennies to cover a dozen urgent needs, who have had to choose, not between necessities and luxuries, but among the most dire necessities only—we who have had to choose between bread and shoes, for example—what is our idea of the more abundant life?

### Luxuries Not Asked

We do not expect or want the luxuries of million-dollar incomes—jewels, sable coats, sleek automobiles. All that we have prayed or hoped for is reasonable comfort and sane, healthy, normal lives for ourselves and those close to us. Our hearts are sick of the years of famine that follow the years of plenty. What we want, Mr. President, is security.

We are sick of all this jiggling up and down. We want a dollar that doesn't jiggle. We want prices that don't go up when greedy hands grab for an extra profit. We want wages that represent a comfortable standard of living. But most of all, we want an assurance of steady income. We cannot enjoy a more abundant life so long as the fear of joblessness and want is ever present in our minds.

We've had a tough time. Skilled and unskilled workers, both manual and white collar, even many people in the professional class, have been living a precarious, hand-to-mouth life. With many of us, our future earnings are mortgaged to pay our past debts. Labor-saving machines, "efficiency", speed-up have been introduced to destroy our means of a livelihood. Unemployment has ruined wage standards that had been so patiently built up.

And the man who has a job—how can he feel sure of it while there are

thousands of hungry, desperate men ready to underbid him for it?

Even in good times our incomes were never large enough, never steady enough, for us to save much. The installment buying plan, with its heavy finance charges, has been a constant temptation to those whose wants were ever greater than their resources.

### We Want Our Share

Of course we do want our share of the abundance which this great nation can produce. We want modern homes, instead of meager, rented quarters. We'd like the home conveniences that relieve drudgery. Keeping house can be

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

*In this article we have tried to sketch some of the essentials we think are necessary for "a more abundant life" for the worker's wife and family, and himself. Are we right? What is your own greatest desire? What would make life more abundant—more happy—more satisfying—for you? Correspondence from readers is invited.*

such an enjoyable job if we can afford modern equipment. If we can have the leisure to keep our minds alive and active. We want time to play with our children, time to be loving mothers instead of worn out, ill-tempered slaves of the skillet. Freedom from fear and from drudgery will help us to make family life beautiful and harmonious as it should be, instead of the jangle of conflicting personalities it so frequently is.

We're tired of criticism of married women who work outside the home by those who do not or will not understand what drives them to seek and hold jobs—the age-old fear of insecurity for themselves and their families. Two employed workers—husband and wife—are safer than one. One may lose his or her job but the other may be able to carry on. By whatever difficult and painful means we can, we try to build up our security. But we'd rather not be forced to carry two loads—home and job—it's not easy.

We want better education for our children as a means to a more abundant life for them. Surely this rich country can afford something better than the

present method of public education where children are jammed into classrooms and put through a routine by an overworked, underpaid teacher who each year finds herself more desperately overburdened and underpaid. We want our children to have opportunity for more individualized education, more personal attention—not education as close to a machine process as is possible to devise. We want their teachers to have more leisure, smaller classes, better pay, more opportunities for study, that will make them happier in their own jobs and better guides for our youth.

### Education Wanted

We want more education for ourselves. We want to be able to keep up with modern trends, so that we need never lose the interest of our husbands and children because we're "out of date." And for the same reason we want to be able to be attractive in appearance—have enough money for clothes and the simple beauty aids that will keep us from getting dowdy and ugly. This is not purely feminine—nobody wants to be unattractive.

And, Mr. President, the only means to a more abundant life is job security. How are we going to get that? Can you give it to us? You are a person of great human sympathy, but sympathy is not enough. To achieve job security there must be a complete change in the whole economic set-up. Can you do that? No one person can do it.

Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, who is an unusually keen, social-minded person, said in an address at a recent meeting of the Railway Labor Executives Association that the most important task confronting society was to find a way to provide wage-earners with greater economic security, improve their wages and working conditions, and raise their standard of living. To achieve this she suggested a program of social legislation on the following points:

### Program for Security

Permanent limitation of hours of labor; prohibition of child labor; the fixing of standard minimum wages for women; requirement of safe and healthy working conditions; old-age pensions, some form of unemployment insurance; adequate workmen's compensation laws; free public employment ex-

(Continued on page 87)



## Child's Play Suit Made From Old Knitted Dress

By SALLY LUNN

Do you like to remodel old garments? I just love to, for it gives me a feeling that I'm so thrifty and so clever, when I can take something that has been worn for two seasons and is out of style and make it over into something entirely different, that is useful, and has an interesting look.

Some of the best ideas about children's clothing I have ever heard about come from the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics. You know they originated the fashion of children's play suits for winter with the long trousers that come way down to the shoes, and sleeves that fit tight at the wrists, and the whole garment so snug that the child is like a little polar bear. They made these garments out of various materials, some woolen and some of waterproof fabrics to be worn over other outdoor clothing.

The suit shown in the illustration is a remodelling job, made from a woman's knit dress. The material was black and white, so red buttons and red knitted bands were used to brighten it up. These bands, and a matching cap, happened to be made of the inexpensive knit material that can be bought ready made for lumber jackets, but they could very well have been made from a bathing suit or old sweater. A beret, also homemade, can be evolved from the same garment.

Some of the best features of this playsuit do not show in the illustration. There is the inset, for example, extending the full length of the leg from the ankle band to the crotch. This inset is made of straight pieces of the fabric about four inches wide, shaped at the crotch to stand the strain of hard play and of taking the garment on and off. The raglan sleeves fit better than set-in sleeves over clothing worn under the playsuit, such as a sweater, and they are more adjustable to the child's growth. The legs are full and blousy for comfort and to allow for growth, too.

The suit is double-breasted in front to keep out the cold. The upper and lower back sections are sewed to a waist band. The lower back has darts below the waist to give fullness in the seat and two little darts at the bend of the hip in the side seams to help still more when the child squats or bends. The large roomy patch pockets are located where the child's hand can reach into them comfortably. Notice the slanting tops which prevent corner tears.

The dress material had to be pieced to make this playsuit, but this was so cleverly done that the seams appear to be part of the design of the suit. This is a good point to remember in making over all kinds of garments.

The knitted bands for the wrists and ankles were stretched to the size of the sleeves and legs and seamed with two rows of stitching. When they spring back to their original size they hold in the fullness and keep out wind and cold.

If you wish to make this playsuit, either out of some old garment that you have, or of new jersey, wool suiting, or

## Women's Auxiliary

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY, L. U. NOS. 84, 613 AND 632, ATLANTA, GA.

Editor:

The Atlanta auxiliary closed another year with much pride and is ready to start the new one with a stronger and better understanding of the needs of our fellow men. The year 1933 taught us many valuable lessons. It drew us closer together; made us more sympathetic; left us seeking only the things required to further the purpose for which we stand and established courage and endurance in every member.

Election of officers was held in December and the installation took place the first meeting in January. Mrs. C. N. Boone, who so successfully pulled the auxiliary through the most trying year of its existence, was reelected president with Mrs. Stroud and Mrs. Scott vice presidents.

We have enjoyed one social already this year. Mrs. J. E. Boone entertained the auxiliary with a turkey dinner.

We are happy to report that all our men are working and we hope that in the very near future every one will have entirely forgotten all about this awful depression.

Our attendance is rapidly growing and we are expecting to be able to turn you in some splendid reports soon.

Wishing our sister auxiliaries a happy New Year. MRS. DEWEY JACKSON, 623 Terrace Avenue N. E., Atlanta, Ga.



other warm fabric, you can buy a pattern for it from the Excella pattern company. The pattern number is E4516. In case you should not be able to find these patterns in your city, you may write to the Excella Corporation, 222 W. 39th St., New York City. The pattern is made directly from the design originated by the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics.

## THE SCHOOL LUNCH

By SALLY LUNN

Quite a potholder has been stirred up in Washington about noon lunches served to school children. Apparently it is going to end happily, for the children, at least.

Mrs. Roosevelt, the First Lady, was invited to visit one of the schools at lunch time and partake of the children's lunch with them. She went. She declared the lunch was excellent.

A few days later she was given a tip that the lunch which had been served in her honor was not typical—it was a good deal better than the children usually got. She made a surprise visit to a school and found out that this was true—that the children's usual lunch was both unappetizing and inadequate. The subject received quite a lot of attention from the daily press and as a result the lunches have been much improved, protective foods such as milk and oranges have been added, an abandoned school house has been fitted up with kitchen equipment as headquarters for preparing the food, and an expert is to be hired to take charge of planning and preparation.

Now you, of course, unless you are here in Washington, do not have the advantage of having Mrs. Roosevelt to champion better school lunches, but if your children partake of lunches served at the school, you can certainly ascertain whether the lunches are as good as possible, considering the money that may be spent and the usually inadequate facilities for preparing the food. After this investigation, if you do not believe the children are being fairly treated, you, with other parents, may raise your voice and make it felt by school and city authorities.

The undernourished child is an innocent victim of a maladjusted economic system. If he is not quickly restored to normal health the experience will leave a permanent imprint on his mind and body. Such children do not grow up to be normal persons—they are warped—and if they live, they become psychopathic cases—victims of chronic diseases, or possibly their minds may be so affected that they become criminals and prey on the society that was not sufficiently concerned about them when they were young.

School lunches are especially important when children are not properly nourished at home. However, children of families who can afford good food also benefit from a hot, well-planned lunch, instead of cold sandwiches supplemented by candy and pickles from the delicatessen. In many places, parents who can afford it are asked to pay for the children's lunches, while those who cannot pay receive them free, the children being fed and treated exactly the same.

It is generally felt that at least one hot, nourishing dish, containing a mixture of vegetables or vegetables and meat, possibly a dish that may include milk or cheese, should be served, with

(Continued on page 87)



# Bulletin of the I. B. E. W. Radio Division

« « Prepared and Circulated by New York City Radio Unions for the Entire Industry » »

THE Federal Radio Commission classifies all radio stations into four groups according to frequency and power as follows:

- (1) Clear channel.
- (2) High power regional.
- (3) Regional.
- (4) Local.

It will be noted that there is no such classification as a "low power regional", a term which is used in the code. It is assumed that the code designation, "low power regional", corresponds with the commission's "regional" to distinguish it from the "high power regional".

On this basis the \$40-per-week minimum wage scale applies to all "clear channel" and all "high power regional" stations with one exception: the part-time "clear channel" station which pays \$30 per week, or \$20 per week if three or less technicians were employed on July 1, 1933. There is no exception made for the limited-time "clear channel" stations; no exception for day-time "clear channel" stations, or for sharing-time "clear channel" stations, or specified hours "clear channel" stations.

On this basis, also, all "regional stations" shall pay \$30 per week with one exception; the part-time "regional," which pays \$20, and, of course, the exception as noted above based on the number of technicians employed on July 1, 1933. No exception is made for the unlimited-time "regional"; no exception is made for the limited-time "regional"; no exception is made for day-time "regional"; no exception is made for the sharing-time "regional", and no exception is made for the specified hours "regional".

On this basis, further, all local stations, regardless of time designations, shall pay at the rate of \$20 per week.

In addition to the above frequency and power designations, the commission also specifies six sub-divisions, based upon the length of time assigned to each station, as follows:

- (1) Unlimited-time
- (2) Limited-time
- (3) Daytime
- (4) Sharing-time
- (5) Part-time
- (6) Specified hours

Only two of these time designations are specifically mentioned in the code; the ones in italics. The "unlimited-time" designation is mentioned only once in connection with local station and is unimportant. It is in the interpretation of the "part-time" designation that most of the disputes arise. For the purpose of

interpreting the code the only authentic definition of a "part-time" station is the one given by the Federal Radio Commission. It reads as follows: "The term 'part-time station' means a station, the operating hours of which are specified in the station license as a fraction of the total hours of the broadcast day, and the use of the same frequency during the remainder of the day not assigned to any other station in the same geographical area." (Page 26, paragraph 80; Federal Radio Commission Rules and Regulations.)

In interpreting the section dealing with apprentices, we understand the Code Authority will allow stations to employ two apprentices if the number works out to anything more than one. For instance, if the figure is 1.1 apprentices, the Code Authority allows two. We question the fairness in this ruling and the reasoning employed in arriving at it. It can be easily shown that it does not conform with the code provision, which reads as follows:

"The number of persons so employed, if more than one, shall not exceed 5 per cent of the total number of regular employees of each employer."

A particular station we have in mind employs 33 regular employees. By the Code Authority's reasoning this station would be allowed two apprentices. However, we claim that if they do employ two apprentices they are violating the code, because two (apprentices) is 6.06 per cent of 33 (regular employees), which, of course, is in excess of the 5 per cent allowed by the code.

On our basis of figuring the number of apprentices allowed works out as follows:

	Apprentices
Less than 20 regular employees..	0
20 to 39 (inclusive) employees..	1
40 to 59 " " " "	2
60 to 79 " " " "	3

We want to point out Article five, Section five of General Labor Provisions, which says in substance that working conditions shall not be changed to frustrate the intent and purpose of the code and that wages and working hours shall conform to those which prevailed on November 1, 1933, if they were better than what the code calls for. This means that an employer cannot reduce wages below those that were in force on that date. That he cannot discharge an employee and rehire him at less money. That he cannot employ a new man for a given job at less money than the same job paid on November 1, 1933. That he cannot

not increase the hours beyond those that existed on that date. All such acts would frustrate the intent and purpose of the code, and that phrase "intent and purpose of this code" carries a punch. That is the heart of the whole code. Simply stated the intent and purpose is to lessen unemployment and increase purchasing power and that is just another way of saying shorten hours and raising wages. Any act of an employer to avoid that principle is a violation and it is the duty of every employee to report such violation to the Code Authority.

Mr. M. H. Hedges of the Research Department of the I. B. E. W. in Washington has been appointed a member of the Code Authority. He is determined that every technician shall get his full share of the benefits he is entitled to under the code. Make your complaints to him at 1200 Fifteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Do not hesitate to take action. The Code Authority is duty bound to receive complaints of violations, to make investigations and hold hearings thereon and adjust such complaints and bring to the attention of the Administrator for prosecution, recommendations for information relative to unadjusted violations. But be sure that your complaint is based on fact and that you state all the facts. The burden of proof lies with the station owner against whom the complaint is made and not with the complainant. Do not hesitate because of fear of employer reprisal, due precautions have been taken to prevent this, but state the facts.

We are still anxious to receive letters from qualified radio technicians with broadcast licenses or studio experience and who are unemployed. Send these to Louis Jurgensen, 130 East 25th St., New York City. State your qualifications and experience and the length of time you have been out of work. Tell all the unemployed broadcast technicians you know to write. These letters will be used as evidence to prove that unemployment exists and that competent broadcast technicians are available when the question of the 40-hour week comes up with the code authority on or before March 11, 1934. If we have enough evidence, we can get the 40-hour week and provide jobs for hundreds of the unemployed.

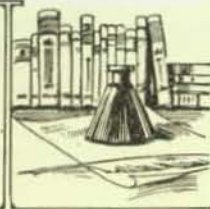
The response to these Bulletins has been very encouraging and it is gratifying to note how the desire for organization is spreading throughout the country,

(Continued on page 94)





# CORRESPONDENCE



## I. B. E. W. Members Again Asked to Aid Radio Men

L. U. NO. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO., RADIO DIVISION

Editor:

At recent conference with our International Radio Representative, although short and in a hurried manner, your writer was shown facts that the code of the broadcast industry did little or no good towards the reemployment of a great number of radio technicians who had been laid off. Well, whatever it was, these men are still out of work, with the exception of a few. The weekly workhours specified in the code are a maximum of 48 hours. We all know that a 48-hour week has not carried out the intent and purpose of the National Recovery Act, which was intended to increase purchasing power by creating more jobs. The I. B. E. W. representatives went out for a 40-hour week at the code hearing in Washington, but a 48-hour week for radio technicians was put into effect. A survey is to be made during the first 90 days that the code is in effect by a committee for the purpose and a report made at the expiration of these 90 days.

Good work was done by the various members and business managers of the I. B. E. W. in getting all radio technicians, whether union or non-union, to let the Brotherhood fight for them at that hearing. The radio station representatives trying to beat the 40-hour week, fought for by the I. B. E. W. men, claimed that there were few or no unemployed radio technicians and that skilled and experienced radio men were not readily available. That we know was absolutely not so. This code, if it stands as is, will not help the radio technicians by putting more of them to work, so it is again up to all of us to get busy again among the radio men and get the information and protests to this part of the code so that our International men may have it all compiled and lined up to be ready for this new hearing that is drawing near. A special request has been made by the International Radio Representative, Brother Thomas R. McLean. It is that all Brothers again arm themselves with sharpened pencils, filled fountain pens and a petition as printed along with this write-up or one similar to it and get the information asked for and immediately mail it to Mr. M. H. Hedges, care of the International Office, Washington, D. C. This survey is needed badly to put up a fight for that shorter workweek. And your help will be greatly appreciated. But don't stop there; get all employed radio technicians to do the same. Get all radio men, whether union or non-union, we need their signatures.

Petition, as prepared by Brother McLean, follows:

"Whereas the President of the United States has approved a code of fair competition for the radio broadcasting industry, wherein a 48-hour maximum workweek

is provided for broadcast technicians; and "Whereas the National Industrial Recovery Act was intended to increase purchasing power by creating more jobs; and

"Whereas the employers' representatives at the code hearing contended that there was little or no unemployment among radio technicians, and that competent technicians were not readily available; and

"Whereas we believe that the employers' representatives' claims, as stated above, were misleading and false; and

"Whereas the broadcast industry code,

### Statement of Fact

Certain radio publications have apparently wilfully misrepresented the relative position of A. R. T. A. and I. B. E. W. in respect to the radio broadcasting code. Mr. Hoyt S. Haddock appeared at the public hearing of the broadcasting code in behalf of A. R. T. A. That fact is true. Mr. Haddock was asked by Deputy Administrator Rosenblatt if his organization was affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and he said "No." He was then asked if he had any authority for representing radio broadcasting technicians and he was unable to produce a single authorization. He said there were some Baltimore radio station technicians in the audience and they would appear in behalf of A. R. T. A. if the deputy administrator would call on them. These men ducked out on Mr. Haddock and refused to make any appearance. This left Mr. Haddock without consideration by the administration. In all the conferences that followed the public hearing, Mr. Haddock was not present, nor was his organization considered as a labor organization nor as a factor in the situation.

—International Brotherhood  
of Electrical Workers.

as approved, will create employment for only a negligible fraction of the radio technicians now out of work; and

"Whereas we believe that a 30-hour workweek is the only means of providing employment for the broadcast technicians now unemployed;

"Therefore, we, the undersigned, hereby protest the 48-hour workweek in the broadcast industry code as it relates to radio technicians and urge that hearings be resumed immediately to change this provision of the code to a 30-hour week and hereby submit evidence to disprove the contention of employers' representatives as stated in paragraph three of this petition, and hereby set down our signatures, home addresses, qualifications and status of employment as evidence thereof:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Unemployed since \_\_\_\_\_  
License No. or Studio Experience \_\_\_\_\_

W. J. KELLER.

L. U. NO. 21, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Editor:

I have been a member of L. U. No. 21 for three years and have not seen a letter from this local. As I have a howl coming, I know of no better place to let it out than through the press, and then some one who is not tired of it might hear and give me some kind of an answer. That will help out some.

We had a hard battle the last two years, but are able to sit up a little now. Our worst hurt now is the Philadelphia Electric U. G. I. We are trying to get the boys into the fold but it is some job. We have tried every way we know of during the last month. We have been going to their homes with more success, as they will talk and promise. Now we are up against it for expense money. The I. O. took our only expenses from us, through Brother McCaskey. We would like to have seen him have another two short weeks time, as he is seeing the boys, something no one has done since 1917. Now we have to walk and there are some good long hikes, too, as the P. E. boys don't care which part of town they live in.

What makes us get our heads up from the pillow is the hope that the Pennsylvania Railroad will let the most of us go to work when they start their electric work from Wilmington, Del., to Washington, D. C., and not put all the ex-railroad men on the jobs. There is no news yet as to when they will start hiring. The railroad is going to do the work itself, so no more contractors.

Old Man Vare, the head of the Republican machine in Philadelphia, is losing a lot of his prestige so they may not import the bunch from North and South Carolina, as they did on the New York Division. "F. D. R." is trying to keep us all now on our reservations. He may keep them down there. There are plenty of us in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington who need the work.

My pen finger is all blistered, so I will short her out. If I don't get too much razzing, I may write again.

BOYD E. COYLE.

L. U. NO. 28, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

In one of our letters some time ago we mentioned the fact that one of the breweries in town was organized 100 per cent and for that reason deserved the patronage of all organized labor. Since that time all the other breweries in town followed suit and organized their plants on the same basis.

We have to quote a few paragraphs from the newspaper advertisements of the American Brewery, the first 100 per cent organized brewery in the city. The story it tells is a rare treat and worth while repeating. Here it is: "Best products are always made by the best workmen—contented with their wages. Union men are such workmen. We



also believe that giving living wages to honest workmen would be increasing Baltimore's prosperity—helping the butcher, the grocer, every retail store with whom these workmen dealt. The results have justified our decision.

"The American Brewery was 100 per cent union years before beer became legal. It was the pioneer—leading the way for others to follow. Just a big, happy, prosperous business family. And we are proud of it, too."

Another paragraph reads as follows: "The American Brewery is glad other brewers of Baltimore are now starting to employ union labor. This means a still larger number of Baltimore families will have a reasonable income on which to live."

The above excerpts from the American Brewery Newspaper and circular advertising we believe to be quite unique in that they advertise the fact that they recognize that satisfied employees are, after all, the best employees to put out a real product. We can believe such a concern to be sincere inasmuch as they were the pioneers in employing union labor in the brewing industry. Whenever you see American beer advertised or sold in your city you can feel assured of receiving a 100 per cent product in every respect.

Again we find our January copy of the JOURNAL as interesting as the prior issues if not more so. In these times events of world-wide importance transpire so rapidly that it is getting to be a difficult feat to keep pace with them. But we can get the important facts as they occur in our own publication and in a language readily understood and digested. This makes it all the more important to keep abreast of the times by reading the JOURNAL and following up succeeding issues.

The section taken up in the JOURNAL entitled, "Your Membership", and evidently a facsimile of a pamphlet, is of extreme interest and of great educational value, not only to new and prospective members but to oldtimers as well.

The various governmental activities mentioned are of extreme importance to us all, and at the same time make very interesting reading. Such matters as the Muscle Shoals project, the building of the town of Norris, in Tennessee, the slum clearance projects, T. V. A. and its numerous allied activities, sometimes make us wonder why it wasn't possible to undertake these projects sooner. An answer to this question readily presents itself and we realize that we finally lived to see the day when this country was in the hands of a fearless leader, who has the courage to take the initiative and engage in projects so immense and so revolutionary in character as to stagger the imagination. May God bless him and crown his efforts with success—our President.

Locally we have very little progress to report. The unemployment situation is still grave and as yet no improvement in sight. From appearances that is a long way off. The CWA projects were very slow in materializing and that may have had a large bearing on the situation.

R. S. ROSEMAN.

#### L. U. NO. 66, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Editor:

Local No. 66 had the pleasure of working with our newly-appointed vice president, Brother Louis Ingram, in an effort to line up all radio electrical workers in this vicinity. We found him to be a very humorous and entertaining speaker, carrying with his argument much forcefulness.

This local has just completed organizing the Railroad District Linemen of the Atlantic System of the Southern Pacific

100 per cent and we are now centering our efforts on shop electricians and signal men on the T. & N. O. Ry. and the Missouri & Pacific Ry. At our last meeting with this group of electrical workers Brother Hugh Olive was elected Assistant General Chairman, and A. J. Bannon as General Chairman. We expect to have this entire system lined up within 60 days.

We have also directed our attention to organizing the Deepwater Power Plant of the Houston Lighting & Power Co. and if everything continues as it now moves, we will perhaps bring in about 30 electrical workers from that plant before the first meeting in March. This local has been devoting a great deal of its time and efforts towards organization work and will appreciate anything that our out of town brothers can do to assist us to this end. We have opened our charter for \$7. You know our regular fee is \$50.

We are again being bothered with these migrating parasites who claim and pretend to be members of organized labor, but who were robbed or lost their receipts, etc., and would appreciate a meal, old clothes or a little change. These fellows should be turned over to the police authorities because they are the worst enemies labor has and they work in direct competition with the union man by taking a job for anything offered and then leaving it in trouble after which they advertise that they are union men. The less you give them the quicker they will die out and the quicker they die out the better organized labor will be. They do not belong to organized labor and the spirit reaches no further down than their neck.

A. J. BANNON.

#### L. U. NO. 68, DENVER, COLO.

Editor:

##### Our Journal

The electrical workers' publication  
Reflects with credit upon our trade;  
'Tis abreast affairs o' the nation  
And leading an orderly crusade.

A crusade for standards o' living,  
Not alone for members o' our I. B.,  
But unselfishly its efforts giving  
Toward benefiting humanity.

With eyes constantly upon the horizon,  
Myriad affairs with which to cope,  
Watching edges o'er and beyond  
With mental vision's periscope.

It represents diligent application,  
Delving into tons o' research;  
Its helm guided by inspiration,  
A transmission knowing no reverse.

Our periodical is well balanced,  
Presenting a fine variety o' news;  
If your humor's subject to challenge  
There's a laugh page also, if you choose.

So that's why, from cover to cover,  
Surely 'tis apparent to you,  
Tho' black and white all over,  
Our JOURNAL's always read clear through.

JACK HUNTER.

#### In Behalf of Amusement

In order that our locals giving progressive bridge parties may have appropriate and decorative equipment, we have secured card decks bearing the Brotherhood's seal, and the union label. These can be had at 75c a pack.

#### L. U. NO. 77, SEATTLE, WASH.

Editor:

In Bend, Oreg., before the railroad was built, the Independent Telephone Company was in the habit of setting their clock by the mill whistle and the sawmill would call up central for the time; the chief operator became quite proficient in "allowing for the wind" in setting the clock by the whistle.

That is about the way some of our ex-members want us to do—go back to the days of the covered wagon. To be sure, "wind time" was fine for the "skinner" and the "wrangler" to use in starting out with their eight-horse team, chuck wagon and trailer for the fall round-up; they generally arrived at a water hole on the high desert in time to feed and water their ponies.

After the toll line was brought in the operator still insisted on setting the clock by the wind or the whistle. (Of course this story is rather far-fetched.) However, some of our old members are just as absurd. They forget the youthful dream that some day labor would make connections with the Observatory in Washington. They remember only the old militant union that had nothing to offer but a walkout or lockout, a court injunction, the blacklist and "bull pen". The dream that some day labor would be recognized has been forgotten; only the bitterness remains. Of course they are hostile.

They sacrificed much and lost. Now we are about to reap the harvest of their tilling and they are on the outside, letting the youth reap where they have sown, or else keeping everyone from a bountiful harvest.

We are seeing signs and wonders; still some do not believe that all labor needs to do is place itself in a position to receive and our lives will overflow with success.

At the federal reemployment office there is a line a block long every day registering for work, while Local Union No. 77 members are all employed. During the last two years both light companies have kept their men on the payroll.

Through the efforts of the Washington State Federation of Labor, the Central Labor Council, Local Union No. 77 and the other locals in Seattle, with the aid of Senator Bone and Senator Dill, Mr. Strandberg, manager of the federal re-employment office, has received orders to hire tradesmen through the unions.

Those who had only ridicule for organized labor and sneers for union men are now looking to us for work. I think Local Union No. 77 is most fair with the boys. "Ma Bell's" company union men, who were laid off three years ago, are put on the list as union men and put to work just on their word that they will join Local No. 77 pay day.

Some morning the old boys—the good union men who have dropped their cards—will wake up to the fact that they need to be in the union and the initiation may be \$50. It is that in the Carpenters Union in Seattle now.

FRANK FARRAND.

#### L. U. NO. 107, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

Editor:

It is not my intention to write much of the rosy things about this part of the country, but to express to the Brotherhood that we have not entirely fallen asleep. On the contrary, as President Roosevelt said, "We are on our way."

It being that more electricians in this city were waiting for the day when the sun rose and set on them, and all wage increases and working conditions would come to them with no efforts on their part,



we decided to call an open meeting for all branches of our trade. We were more than pleased with the results. Brother M. J. Boyle, International Vice President of our district, was the principal speaker. He delivered a timely message. To state it briefly, those men who were there that evening have come again and brought others with them.

Brother Boyle decided at that time to let Organizer E. A. Johnson further the cause in this territory. With plenty of hard work ahead of him, he has made remarkable improvements. I wish to state some of them:

The forming of a closed shop condition here in this city, which hasn't existed since 1920. Think of it, Grand Rapids, known the country over by the manufacturers as a strictly wide open town! We have to date signed agreements with six local contractors.

The organizing of the electrical workers of a local utility company, where before only a company union existed.

His every co-operation in getting the rate of \$1.20 an hour for skilled men on the CWA set-up, which was being held down by that wonderful body, the Association of Commerce. The argument held was that they thought \$1.20 was the maximum and not the minimum. We are glad to say that now the skilled, competent men are getting \$1.20. Also that they are living up to Bulletin 10, Section 3, Paragraphs 6 and 7, which gives union men a 48-hour preference for skilled mechanics.

From the above statements, we know well that Brother Boyle did not send us the wrong man in choosing Brother E. A. Johnson as a representative of the I. B. E. W. in this territory. We wish to thank both Vice President Boyle and Brother E. A. Johnson for their efforts so far, and we feel proud of their accomplishments. We know the fight isn't over yet but we are with the cause 100 per cent, so more power to the I. B. E. W. We are now planning a full time business agent to look after our affairs.

Grand Rapids, being the furniture capital of the world, we note the NRA furniture code is in effect at 34 cents an hour, and we hear many rumblings and grumbings by the furniture workers. They being unorganized, it just shows what a hand-out they received.

The Imperial Brewing Company located here, which at one time did not believe in organized labor, erected their plant somehow, but could not find a market for non-union made beer. We wish to state that they now have a signed agreement with all trades and crafts to employ only union men. We wish it success.

We, like most all cities, are having a ball here January 30, in honor of President Roosevelt's birthday, and from all indications it will be a real success. We hope to see most of the electrical workers there.

Greetings to Local Union No. 28, especially to Brother T. J. Fagen and the others I worked with on the Eastern Electric project in 1929-30.

W. S.

#### L. U. NO. 145, DAVENPORT, IOWA; ROCK ISLAND, MOLINE, ILL., AND VICINITY

Editor:

Well, this writing can be done with a pleasure and not spread any gloom. Last month the unemployment was over half of our local.

Now if a request came for a man Brother Wood would have to guess where he was going to get him. What a Godsend this is to our

#### READ

Grand Rapids on top, by L. U. No. 107.

Favorable view of NRA, by L. U. No. 549.

Toronto silences criticism, by L. U. No. 353.

Ft. Wayne digs in by L. U. No. 723.

The Copyist returns, by L. U. No. 212.

Ford confronts union in England, by L. U. No. 773.

Labor is waking up, by L. U. No. 233.

Labor activities in Canada, by L. U. No. 409.

About better homes, by L. U. No. 303.

Our Journal, by L. U. No. 68.

Labor gets recognition, by L. U. No. 995.

Building trades co-operate and advertise, by L. U. No. 193.

Value of union labor according to one large business group, by L. U. No. 28.

New utility local makes bow, by L. U. No. 452.

These letters, and more like them, make this co-operative publication readable and influential.

local and community! Well, you know this sort of thing makes you believe there is a Santa Claus.

And may God bless our President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and his cabinet members, as he is doing his best to bring this nation out of the rut, and if the money changer does not put the squeeze act on him he will bring it out and bring our government to where it will be a government by the people for the people instead of for private enterprise. In my opinion if something like this had not happened our country would turn to revolution, because people can be held down just about so long, then they will become temporarily insane and they are not accountable for what they do.

So have faith in him; the burden may be a little heavy; it has been for a long time, but if we have employment for our men, that they may be able to pay their own way, they will be better citizens.

You will find some that as long as they get food and clothing they never will work, but you may just class them as poor citizens. The sooner you get rid of them the better our country will be. A good American citizen wants to work and make his own way through life, although on the wages he received he is only able to exist. The big issue to be taken care of is old age—old age pensions.

Last meeting night I gave the boys a surprise, with a half barrel of "cross country" and lunch. I am sure they enjoyed it. I never knew we had such talent. There were two quartets and when one sang one song the other sang "Sweet Adeline."

I must close and get this in the mail—December 31 air mail, 7 p. m. Wishing you all a prosperous New Year.

G. O.

#### L. U. NO. 193, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Editor:

It has been some time since L. U. No. 193 has had a letter in the WORKER, so we thought it was about time to get busy and let the membership know that we are still alive.

About the last of October, 1933, the business agents of all the building trades and crafts held a closed meeting to discuss the feasibility of organizing into one unit, so to speak, as the Building Trades was not and has not been carrying on for the past year on account of some of the crafts withdrawing. This business agents' group was to be organized for the betterment of all crafts. After several meetings it was decided that each business agent report back to his local union and lay before them the proposition as it was adopted and have the local unions give their consent in trying to put this idea over.

This was done. All contractors in the building industry were contacted and the proposition fairly explained to them, which was followed up by a letter explaining to the contractors the purpose of this group of business agents. In addition to this letter a list of all building craft contractors who employ union workmen was mailed to each and every one connected with the building industry of any description so there would be no excuse for any one to go wrong.

The letter sent out stated that as we had formed this business agent's association it was the intent of all organized crafts to work in harmony with the association in so far as to have all work done on future work by union workmen and to make all jobs 100 per cent union.

This program has been followed to the letter and we have had good results by being able to sell our idea to the contractor or owner, and it has had a very good effect on the morale of the craftsmen and they are beginning to see that "where there is a will there is a way" and "in union there is strength." The immortal Lincoln spoke the truth when he made this statement: "A divided house can not stand" and we believe that we are beginning to see and believe he was right.

We do not claim that every job is or has been 100 per cent, as this would be misleading, for all of you know that there are always some small jobs that are started by men who try to do all their own work with the help of their would-be mechanics and as a rule they are not union craftsmen, but we do claim that all jobs of any importance have been done by union labor, and the business agents are on the job at all times.

We have had our troubles with the PWA and CWA projects the same as all other cities have, but union craftsmen are doing the work on all projects, and are receiving the scale of wages that they are entitled to receive, notwithstanding the wage as adopted by the NRA for this work in the different zones.

The business agents meet every morning and take up any matter that has come up, or go out and straighten up some job that had tried to slip by, and then we have a regular meeting every Friday night for a general discussion of the previous week's work, and we can say that this has had its effect on all concerned in the building game and we are well pleased with our progress and can recommend this same idea to other cities and hope that they will try it if it looks good to them.

If any reader has any suggestions to make let's have them.

Local Union No. 193 opened its charter during the month of December and we had 10 applicants who passed muster, for we are



not taking in any member who is not working, for we inform every applicant that we do not guarantee or promise them a job, nor do we pay the dues for any member who takes advantage of the low admission fee of \$7, and if they do become members they must abide by our constitution and by-laws governing same.

We have been trying to organize the Central Illinois Light Company men, but have had no success. A majority of the boys have been with the company for years and have stock in the company and are satisfied. A few would like to join but have not the nerve to make the step.

We have 45 of our members employed by the city municipal plant and they have tried to convince the other boys to sign up but with no result. Come on, boys, and give us your idea about getting power company employees to see the light.

On January 24 the executive board members and the business manager were called to Decatur, Ill., to take up the proposition of amalgamating L. U. No. 146 with L. U. No. 193. After some discussion and explaining to them the working conditions and the way the business is carried on in Local Union No. 193 and what advantage they would have by amalgamating with us they voted to come in, so after January 31 L. U. No. 146 will be no more.

We want to say right here that the idea of the International Office to amalgamate smaller local unions with a larger one is a step in the right direction, as it is a business proposition. With hard roads in every direction the business manager can take care of any and all jobs or men within a radius of 50 miles and can and will do more for the smaller local unions than they can do for themselves, for he has made a study of his work, has come in contact with more contractors and is in a position to look after the business.

Each local union has about the same expense to carry on their business; each has to make out the International Office reports and any other correspondence that may come up, and from all reports the small local union has had a hard time to make both ends meet. The International Office officials would not be compelled to go from one section of the land to the other to look after the workings of the smaller local unions by amalgamating. This expense would be cut down and the business manager of the larger local unions, with the assistance of the financial secretary, would be in a position to carry on the work as it should be.

The I. B. E. W. is one of the largest labor organizations in the United States, and it may be termed an industrial plant, doing a very large business, with its thousands of members, president, vice president and executive council and a horde of co-workers, not only taking care of the membership as a whole in looking after their welfare by always being on the job to better our conditions, but the same officers give their undivided attention to see that we, as members of the E. W. B. A. and those of us who have taken advantage of the group or other insurance are protected at all times. We have insurance that is insurance. Do you know that we are members of a Class A rating insurance company, the highest rating that an insurance company can get, and this alone speaks well for our International Office family.

Show me a group of men who have worked more diligently and faithfully building up and keeping up an organization like the I. B. E. W., through the past years of depression, and always ready and willing to be at the front fighting our battles for us. Those of you who have not given this a

thought should stop and think what a strain and worry our officials have had for the past few years, you business managers should have some idea of what these men are up against. We know from experience that it is nerve-racking and tiresome work to carry on our work as it should be.

Show me a group of men who have been as faithful as our officers have been. They took the good with the bad and smiled through it all, and when we were on the short end of the bank account they came through with the half-time pay to help tide over the Brotherhood in times of need. This can be said of the full-time business manager also, but his trials and tribulations are local. Our officers get the reaction from all parts of the United States and Canada and have shown themselves equal to the occasion, always ready and willing to give all that is in them for the cause that they believe in and are fighting for.

We have been in several groups in the last few years and have heard remarks made by members of the Brotherhood about the high dues that the members of the I. B. E. W. are required to pay, and the large salaries our officers are drawing, the salaries of the International Office representative and the expense accounts as allowed by our constitution were also brought up.

Now as to our dues; this has been explained several times in the WORKER. If you do not put anything into your work you certainly can not expect to get anything out of it.

Compare the salaries of our officers with the salaries of other organizations, railroads, banks, insurance companies, state, county and city officials, and also the class of work and responsibility of the work, and do you not believe that a vast number of officials would be advocating increase in salaries and expenses to be in keeping with their duties? We believe that if a man is worthy of his hire he should be paid accordingly, and our officials are not overpaid but underpaid, and I believe that if it was put up to a vote it would be so proved.

HERMAN R. ARMBRUSTER.

#### L. U. NO. 210, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Editor:

Well, here it is, boys; but if it don't suit you, put the blame on Bachie, as he has proceeded with my introduction in the previous issue.

However, I'll admit that I am rather proud to be "one of the boys of L. U. No. 210," and hope I will be able to put 'em over the home plate in regular order.

Our membership is and has been on the gain and has never been jerked around with the depression, as have many other locals. The closing of the banks, of course, affected us in a large way, but never stopped our paying of sick benefits or the like.

In fact we have "shone the light" on six new members within the last four months and we have no membership campaign in progress. That goes to show the eagerness of non-members to become "a turn of the coil." Besides we have a few applications on file awaiting the action of the committee.

We also have a brand new executive board and they are real live wires. When action is required they climb up there and "fix 'er up." The largest percentage of our members are working and the Atlantic

City Electric Company, which covers a large territory of South Jersey, is using them to a great advantage and satisfaction.

We are also affiliated with the Central Labor Union, of Atlantic City, which has been recently reorganized. So you see we are not asleep just because it is winter time.

Thinking that a small ball will go farther without making as much noise as a big one, I'll lay the bat down and maybe next month I'll spit on my glove. Remember, boys, I'm pitching and batting both so your cheers should come in order.

"HO-BO BEN."

#### L. U. NO. 211, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Editor:

Us gandy-dancers had our hours cut to 24 per week, but who cares? There has been many and many a month during the past four and one-half years when we didn't average the 24 hours. While the dinero is mighty welcome, there are times when I think of the "pay-off" for all the billions that the government is expending, and can't help but wonder where, when and how it is all going to end.

'Tis funny how some trifling or unexpected incident will bring up memories of things long forgotten, for instance: On a recent WEAF program the entire musical score from "The Red Mill" was played, and my thoughts drifted back to the early spring of 1903, when I was working in the White Kitchen on Seventh Street, near Olive, in St. Louis. My duties were varied and many, consisting of washing dishes, mopping the floors, cleaning the greasy ranges, waiting on tables during the rush hours, and, last but not least, each morning I would build flap jacks on the griddle in the front window. Yow suh, that was a real job. The days were 14 hours long and seven per week, for which I received the munificent sum of six bucks per week and beans. I spent \$1.50 out of the first pay for a front row seat to see that famous old musical comedy. All of which proves absolutely nothing at all except that a fool and his money are soon parted.

After 10 strenuous days, the wrinkles were all ironed out and like all well fed tramps I felt the urge to see what was over the next hill. So, tried to enlist in the Marine Corps, but the recruiting officer tripped me up on my age. And after a lengthy and moist tour of the Anheuser Busch Brewery, I woke up in a box car at DeSoto, 22 miles south, sans money and all militant ideas.

The anonymous writer of Local Union No. 51 would have you all believe that he knew me "when," but I have my doubts, else he would know that we moved to the East Bluff in the fall of 1899 (216 Illinois Ave., to be exact). It was a "gra-and neighborhood" up around Madison and Hayward Streets. Murphy, the plumber, lived next door; to the east was "Reddy" O'Brien—his old man was a moulder. Across the street lived "Swede" Frederickson, whose home was flanked by the O'Donnells and the O'Tooles, while over the R. I. and P. tracks lived the grandparents of the now famous Nicodemus O'Malley and Mickey (himself) McGuire. Down by the winegar works were the Quinners and the Burnses, and up in Averyville the "Tiff" Henry's held forth. Was that a gang, or was it, I'm askin' yuh?

Nearly forgot, the chief of police resided only a half block away. Can't remember his name, but they had twin daughters who were the prettiest and sweetest kids you ever laid eyes on.

And what gang fights we had! I still

The bound volumes of the 1933 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.



carry the scar where someone bounced a rock off my dome. Another thing ever to be remembered, was the first bite of "Star" plug down behind Brodbeck's barn. At first I was afraid I was going to die, but in another five minutes I was afraid it wouldn't happen.

Harry Mackey and "Leo" M. Holly (himself) are the only two old amigos whom I recognized in the photo of the Peoria bunch. I wonder if Mackey recalls the days when he was a cub lineman for Mom Bell and I was the best damn office boy that ever mooched the "makins" or "cut" the cashier for street car tickets and postage stamps. Ask "Shorty" Matlin and Bob Marlatt—they know.

So, I say unto Mr. Wire Fixer: As a press secretary confining himself strictly to local affairs he rates first class but as an historian he should sign off, "William Shears, alias Scissor Bill."

The "repression" has proven the truth of the old saying, "People who live in glass houses should undress in the dark," as I know of seven different families who have been reduced to actual want and it was only a few short years ago that they were riding around in expensive cars and high-hatting their neighbors and friends. But they're in short pants now.

And here's a good number for your Victrola: A certain party, whose name is best left unmentioned, was seen strolling along the avenue with a \$40 coat, \$7 hat, \$12 trousers, \$2 spats and a 10-cent pair of sure-stick-on rubber soles on what is left of a \$13 pair of shoes. When that guy was in the money he missed a few drinks and bought good clothes, so now is wearing them out.

Was very glad to see Horne, of L. U. 18, back with us again and hope that his health permits him to resume his mighty clever and interesting epistles. Also am looking forward to reading that promised article of his, "Boulder Dam, as seen through the eyes of a wood-walker."

Greatly appreciate the letter on the gold dollar by my little English amigo, up in St. Catherines. He slings a mean pen and you should hear him talk—very clever, these English—and can Mrs. "Tommie" cook? Boy, it would knock your eye out. But I still can't understand what he is doing on the coke pile.

Irvine, of Winnipeg, may think that it gets cold up yonder, but on January 5 it was so cold down here that we put my earmuffs on the gold fish. So long!

BACHIE.

#### L. U. NO. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Editor:

I have often wondered what becomes of the WORKER after the average member has received it and digested its contents. This question was partially answered in December issue by my friend, "Bachie", "The Ol' Deep Sea Diver of Atlantic City," who delves back through his collection to the January, 1926, issue, then puts me on the spot for my efforts to establish a more recent date of birth for myself than the one recorded in the family Bible. Well, Brother, you got me, face to the wall with hands up.

I also have a copy of the January, 1926, WORKER, but I believe I can go you one better as my collection of souvenirs dates back to 1912 and with the exception of a few missing numbers the collection to date is complete. I was also furnishing copy for Local Union No. 212 at that time and continued until June, 1924, when the publicity secretary (at that time better known among the scribes as "The Critic") of L. U. No. 53,

## Warning!

In April, 1932, we published the following notice in the JOURNAL:

"Several locals have reported operations of one G. A. Kelly and G. A. Kelly, Jr., the latter supposed to be a boxer. These men have called at offices of different local unions using Vice President Boyle's name. They carry no cards in this organization. Vice President Boyle denies that he has authorized the use of his name. Local unions should take warning."

For the second time, we must warn all local unions not to be taken in by these or any other imposters. G. A. Kelly and G. A. Kelly, Jr., have no connection whatsoever with this organization.

G. M. BUGNIAZET,  
International Secretary.

Kansas City, imposed upon me the alias "Copyist", which hangs on to this day.

I don't believe you can question my kindly feeling toward our worthy Editor, Brother Bugniazet, and our late Brother Ford, who served before him, as they both, with much endurance, have accepted, translated, and published my terrible script during this long period of time.

In reviewing the January, 1926, issue, "Bachie", I note that you, together with Al Danielson, of L. U. No. 595, Oakland, Calif., and myself received the same assignment by the Editor, and as time marches on we still carry on with the exception of Danielson. The last record he has in the WORKER was in January, 1928, when he completed a series of articles which had covered a three-month issue. The final one of these articles was signed "Dangerous Dan". If this was to be his swan song he failed to refer to it as such. Following this exceptionally good effort of Danielson, Eshlemann appeared among the scribes and remained with us for some time; then correspondence from L. U. No. 595 became irregular. The past year, however, brings them out almost 100 per cent, through the combined efforts of Lyle, Meech, Pollard, Gaillac, Young, Leach and last but not least Johnston, any one of whom would be a valuable asset as press secretary to any local union.

Yes, "Bachie", old boy, I suppose we, at least quite a few of us, are listed with the "Ol' Timers". Some pass on before their time, while others remain to review with interest happenings of earlier days. I hope to be included in the latter group for some time to come. What say you?

Not since the death of Brother W. Borgerding, January 8, 1932, have we requested space in the "In Memoriam" column.

At this time it is my sad duty to report the death of Brother Harry L. Fitzpatrick. "Fitz" was a member of L. U. No. 212 during his entire career as a Brotherhood electrical worker which covered a period of 30 years.

During this time his progressiveness and

ambition as an active and loyal member was rewarded by a term in the president's chair, which was immediately followed with, first, a one-year, then a two-year term as business manager. He experienced defeat in a closely contested, three-cornered race for this office in 1932, with the Old Maestro, Cullen, carrying off the honors. This defeat, however, failed to decrease his active interest in the general welfare of L. U. No. 212. In 1931 he entered the race for city council on the labor ticket, was high man on his ticket and finished tenth in the final count for nine possible elective candidates, which is something in our town.

He died in the Jewish Hospital January 3, 1934, following a period of suffering which had lasted two months.

Words fail in a time like this to console a bereaved family who have suffered the extreme loss of husband, father and brother, but we do wish to extend to them our deepest regrets and most sincere sympathy during this most discouraging hour.

Immediately after going to press Local Union No. 212 was called upon to pay its respects to the memory of the wife of Brother Wm. B. Slater. Mrs. Slater was laid to rest January 20, 1934, following a long period of severe illness.

Times like this bring out the good or bad in folks, and in my mind nothing, as yet, has been invented to take the place of Brotherhood affiliation among tradesmen. One of the grandest demonstrations of brotherly spirit and friendship was brought out on this sad occasion that would offset argument to the contrary. Especially worthy of mention are the many Brothers who placed their cars in service, namely, Brothers Weisenborn, Feinauer, Steinart, Maley, Schuster, Baade, Phillips, Liebenrood and our office car by Brother William Cullen, also the pallbearers Brothers Foster, Liebenrood, Maley, Fuerstine, Simonton and Ex.-Brother J. Schwartz.

I can assure L. U. No. 212 that Brother Slater will always carry the deepest feeling of appreciation toward its entire membership for the kindly spirit and favors shown at this time.

THE COPYIST.

#### L. U. NO. 233, NEWARK, N. J.

Editor:

The winter being almost over and spring not many weeks away gives us something to look forward to, even though it were a repetition of the last year. Spring brings a renewal of life in our plant life and somehow or other transfers it to man to give him confidence and courage to struggle and battle through the next year. Our thoughts are of a happier nature with the cold and dreary months of winter behind and the long days of sunshine ahead of us.

Several weeks ago our officers journeyed to Easton, Pa., to install a new local there. This baby local, to be known as L. U. No. 452, was installed after much hard work by its present members. These new Brothers are employed by the local utility company. We extend our greetings to Local No. 452 and hope their efforts to organize the surrounding territory and to better their conditions will be successful.

All over the country new locals are being chartered in this and other industries. Labor is waking up, gaining strength and testing the bonds that have held it helplessly bound and gagged the past few years. Our strength is unlimited and once we become united those same bonds will be snapped as if they were merely threads. From then on we will inhabit the homes we build and consume the products of our



labors, which hitherto have been denied us, because of an improper system of distribution.

Our membership is steadily increasing, due to the keen interest shown by its members to organize their territory. All our efforts are spent in organizing and educating the unorganized so that we may realize the better things of life and enjoy them here on earth, taking no chances on the hereafter.

JAMES E. REDDING.

#### L. U. NO. 245, TOLEDO, OHIO

Editor:

Greetings, wire-twisters: Toledo has nothing to offer this month in the form of good news, but if you fellows in other cities haven't enough bad news then pull up a seat and stand by; Local No. 245 has plenty of bad news this month. To start it off with, our committee has not met with any favorable agreement with the company as yet, although they have met with them several times. For awhile they were, from all appearances, sailing on untroubled waters, then, just as we expected the vessel to make fast, a storm broke, making it dangerous to moor our vessel, so we hoisted anchor and floated back to deeper and safer waters and there we are standing by awaiting a pilot. The crew is getting anxious for shore leave, so I hope that the International or local board can furnish a suitable pilot to avoid a mutiny on our good ship. The crews of other ships resting in our snug little harbor here are awaiting word to join our shore leave.

On January 9, one of our very good members, Clarence Jennings, passed to the land beyond. Brother Jennings left us very suddenly and without warning, although he died of natural causes. It was quite a blow, for in the several years that it has been my pleasure to know this man it has been indeed a pleasure. Brother Jennings was a union man, first, last, and always. Very few meetings this last few years that Clarence was not present to offer what he could toward a bigger and better union.

Then, on January 19, another blow came from out a clear sky. Another Brother and good friend of all who knew him passed from this world of living. Floyd Steakley, who was known and well liked by all who knew him, was electrocuted when he came in contact with a phase of one of our 6,900-volt feeders. After you realize that for several years accidents of this kind have been very few and very far between, we, like others, began to think that we were beyond that type of accident and each individual took a certain amount of pride in the fact that life and limb are not being sacrificed at the enormous rate of a few years ago. This man was one of our most careful workers and to think that he was to be sacrificed in the prime of his life is not too easy to bear. Our sympathy is hereby extended to the family of Brother Steakley. Our safety meetings that are held here at regular intervals have done wonders in bringing down our number of accidents, that a few years ago were looked upon as something that simply had to happen—a foolish thought, when one considers it. While these meetings have not and never will entirely eliminate accidents, any one with common sense will have to admit that these meetings have made a greater assurance of your returning home to your family at night. So, don't let this one unavoidable accident prevent you one and all from getting back of these meetings, for you get out of them what you take out of them yourselves. And after all, safety is

the watchword of any worker, and safety is the insurance policy that you give your family and it pays big dividends, fellows.

The boys around the transformer room, led by Bill Hill, are real busy these days winding coils for our many types of transformers in use here, and they are turning out some very neat work. Some of the men of the garage are doing impossible things, too. For several years now they have succeeded (the Lord knows how) in keeping 1926 and 1927 vintage of Whippet autos in running order. These cars, or heaps, have from 80,000 to 180,000 miles on them now and some better than that. Is that a record? These cars are a good advertisement for a \$60,000,000 utility firm. But these boys in the garage have certainly done wonders with them.

Our meter department is functioning with practically all the boys members of our local. This would have been impossible two years ago—or at least seemed so.

Mrs. George Maiberger, Mrs. Harry Herbert, Mrs. Admiral Dewey Pitney, and Mrs. Martin Graham have all been confined to the local hospital here. We hope for them all a speedy recovery.

EDWARD E. DUKESHIRE.

#### L. U. NO. 275, MUSKEGON, MICH.

Editor:

The last meeting of this local was one of jollification. George and Joe produced that liquid which we had been waiting for. So-o-o we rushed the regular business through, so that we might deliberate on the lunch and beer. Bill Sikkenga assisted with the arrangements. Good work, boys.



You want the Journal!  
We want you to have the Journal!  
The only essential is your

Name .....

Local Union .....

New Address .....

Old Address .....

When you move notify us of the change of residence at once.

We do the rest.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

1200 15th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

We were glad to have Brothers Rypstra, Newkirk, Wassner and Kibbe with us for the evening. Come again.

At least one company in Muskegon has seen the light. The Muskegon Brewing Company has indicated that they wish to play with organized labor from now on. An unorganized, unofficial, yet very effective boycott caused some serious thinking on their part.

Do you ask for the union label? How about those cigs?

Say, Brother, did you read that article on "Your Membership" in the January Journal? If you have not read it now and if you did, read it again. It gives you a fine picture of what it means to belong to the I. B. E. W. The entire article is excellent but there is one section which in my humble opinion can stand a little emphasis. I refer to the section on rights and responsibilities. It seems to be human nature to insist on our rights but to forget our responsibilities. Remember a chain is only as strong as the weakest link. Are you a weak link? Nuff sed.

GIBBS.

#### L. U. NO. 303, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

Editor:

On the back of the cover of January's JOURNAL we read the words of the Archbishop of Canterbury and York, which are not timely and up-to-date—in fact they are away late. One is reminded of the old saying, "None are so blind as those who will not see." And I'm afraid that is the trouble with these "high" persons. It is a good time now to talk about these things. They are popular because other great leaders are taking up the consideration of better homes for the people.

To our JOURNAL goes my applause for so practically going into this question. Hardly a month has passed for some considerable time that this JOURNAL has not had one, two or more good articles about better homes.

Before I forget, let me ask all those who have not read William Morris' "News from Nowhere," to do so at their first opportunity. Yes, this is truly a holy cause, to abolish the slum. Never shall I forget the joy of hearing the folks in Seattle tell me that "There is no slum in our city." What an achievement! What a pride one would feel to know that all his neighbors had a proper place to live in. Many who read these lines have never seen slums and those who eke out their lives in them. May you never see them. But, for humanity's sake, don't let the slum ever begin in your fair towns and cities.

Just imagine one water faucet for 30 or more families, no bath for anybody, and for other conveniences, well, there was only one. Slums, help us! How the archbishops and all the rest of the men who, we are reminded, have college educations, are taught to think to be the superiors in leadership have been so cowardly as to not open their mouths before now, beats the devil.

One can recall many of the attacks on the slums and how to get rid of them; maybe someone can tell of the high prices paid to the owners of these slums, so that municipalities or government agencies could go to work to build real houses. Always it would seem there was a deadlock and the "homes fit for heroes"—Mr. Lloyd George's hoey—never seem to materialize. I don't know what you think of the slum owners and those who help to perpetuate them, but this ink painter (your humble scribe) could burr up this paper with condemnation.



However, it seems for the want of something else to build or to get me back to work the powers that are listened to are all hot about better homes. About 100 years ago they bought and sold human beings. After a whole lot of talking and worse than that, that sin was stopped. Education has become general and quite a large number of those who work are thinking hard, and to the credit of these noblemen who have never done manual labor, they are thinking hard and fast so that all those who should have acted long ago are forced to quit stalling, and hence the loud wailing about the slums. The thing that surprises me is the meekness of the slum dweller. Those in the mansions see the handwriting on the wall, "Mene mene tekel upharsin."

THOS. W. DEALY.

L. U. NO. 323, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.

Editor:

Let us suppose we are in the year 1944, instead of 1934, and we are sitting around the dinner table wondering how to spend the evening.

The new theatre down town has just leased a wire from the Future Plays, Inc., of New York, and is showing on their screen that brand new play, "Heaven Bound." All the other theatres still use the old method; that is film and projecting ma-

chines. Parking places are mighty scarce and we would rather stay home this evening anyway, so we call the telephone operator and have her connect us to the wire, bringing to our home the play we wish to see. This will add a few cents to our telephone bill, but we still prefer that comfort at home rather than the crowds and hard theatre seats. After the play, we will see the President deliver his message; and then on the screen of our television radio we will take a drive along a shady street in the Orient and see the cherry trees in blossom, for it is day time over there.

Sometimes when I hear different religious denominations condemning each other, I wonder when they have traveled their different roads and arrive at the promised land if they argue there as to which was the best road. I wonder if the French and German soldiers up there love each other.

WADE SUTTON.

L. U. NO. 339, FORT WILLIAM, ONT.

Editor:

At this time of writing the dawn of a New Year is with us, and with it comes the opportunity once again of forming new resolutions, new habits of life and conduct, and of fostering new hopes for the coming months ahead of us. The glad anticipations with which everyone faces this New Year, seem to indicate that the year just ended

had its failures. It also prompts us to think that the New Year holds possibilities, the nature of which we cannot conceive at present, but we sincerely hope that it will bring prosperity to all instead of to the few as exists today.

Brother Mitchell, of Local No. 339, makes mention of an age-old problem of all organizations, i. e., holding of members, getting former members to rejoin, and I might add myself: the collection of dues. My, my what a problem! I'm afraid it would be much easier to solve the depression. In my estimation the chief trouble is in members failing to attend meetings.

Many are called, but few attend—the same old story. I'll bet that story reaches from British Columbia to Maine and from Maine to California. Cards are sent out previous to each meeting to every member; with what results? The same old clique, as Brother Irvine, of L. U. No. 1037, mentions, attends. I would like to ask Brother Irvine, where would organization be if it wasn't for the so-called clique? No answer is necessary. "Eno's."

I am sorry to report that we have not only lost members who were unable to keep their dues paid, but members who are working steady today and are enjoying the privileges attained through organization. The excuses given are generally some personal grudge or a general discontentment which they cannot explain themselves.

Some of these men are living with the spirit of the times. They have lost sight of the optimistic side of life and given way to pessimism and discontentment.

Discontented people, as we know them, acquire the habit of complaining and finding fault. They are continually pitying themselves, unaware, no doubt, that they are their own worst enemies and that self pity is one of the greatest destroyers of public morale. Remember that war song, "Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag". Why that song did more for the troops in helping them to win the war than all the shells that left the barrels of the guns.

During 1934 let us resolve to forget all these vices I have mentioned. Let us cultivate the spirit of optimism, forget grudges against person or persons, forget gloom and pessimism; it only saps our courage, and prevents us from doing something useful. Use common sense. You know it is an old-fashioned term, but still it expresses the manner in which we should conduct the activities of our every-day life.

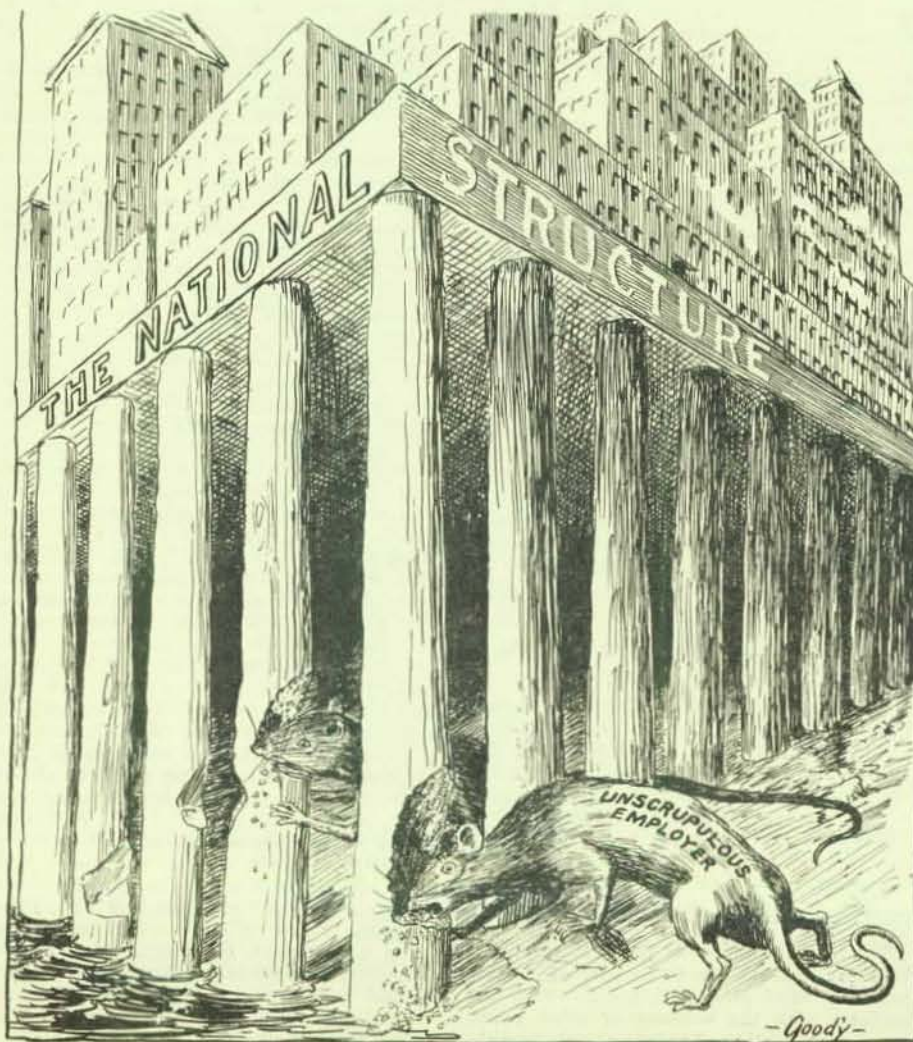
Now in the name of common sense let us stop for a moment and meditate on the benefits our organization offers outside of the fraternal side.

What insurance company will protect your families to the extent of \$1,000 and protect yourself in your old age to the extent of \$40 a month for the small amount of \$2 a month, which is remitted to the International office? Name it! It can't be done. Remember, boys, the title of Friday night's radio program, "The March of Time." You bet time marches on unnoticed, and it won't be long until some of us will be lucky enough to reach 65. Just think how nice it will be then, when to a great extent we will be independent of the world and can look back and say, "Well, we kept faith with our organization and now we can enjoy the benefits obtained through a small sacrifice in the years behind."

One thing I would like you to keep in mind is that the boys who are carrying the weight of our organization today are optimistic, and all that they ask is that you co-operate with them by staying with your organization, work for your organization, and if you don't belong to it get into the

## CHISELERS

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harrie S. Goodwin





organization, and then when times do come back to normal we will be in a position to face all difficulties with an optimistic Brotherhood, and not with a discontented mob as exists at the present time.

I am pleased to report that Brother J. Otway, our past president, is fully recovered from his recent operation. We wish him the best. We would suggest, however, that a sign on the wall of the telephone exchange would not be amiss to read something like this: "Please do not discuss your operation during working hours." We also extend our sympathy to Starr Barrett, who had his right arm amputated a short time ago. Starr has been cable splicer for the Fort William Exchange for 25 years.

In conclusion I again appeal to members to attend meetings. Pay your dues promptly and if you haven't the means to pay, come and tell us, and we will be only too pleased to help you. Don't keep our financial secretary singing this tune, "Why don't you come up and see me some time?"

F. KELLY.

#### L. U. NO. 353, TORONTO, ONT.

Editor:

The membership of this organization is demanding that a letter appear in our official JOURNAL giving all the details, scandal and what is going on, in order that they may sit down by the fireside and fill their pipes and get all the information they desire without taking the trouble to come down to our meetings. We have been trying for a number of months to ascertain the reason for the small attendance at our local union meetings but we must confess we have come to a dead end. We have had very interesting meetings for the few faithful who attend, and last meeting night we had the pleasure of listening to International Vice President Ingles give us a very enjoyable address on his trip through the western provinces and the coast. At the last meeting in 1933 we presented solid gold I. B. E. W. buttons to every member who attended and the meeting was invited down in a body to attend a very pleasant stag party given by the Labor Day committee, and we fully expected our first meeting night in 1934 would show a substantial increase in attendance, but we were doomed to disappointment. If attending meetings of this local union has got to be a lost art we suppose we shall have to follow out the suggestion of the executive board and clutter up the pages of this worthy JOURNAL with the information that the Brothers should come to the meetings and get.

There have been so many rumors in the last six months about what various members were being paid in the different shops that the executive board appointed our past president, Brother John Nutland, as chairman of a special investigating committee to investigate and run these rumors to earth. Brother Nutland appointed Business Manager Shaw to act with him in making this investigation. Brother Nutland then proceeded to call all the members of 12 different shops, numbering 125 men, and interviewed each member individually in the local union office and asked each man to swear that the evidence given was correct. There have been, of course, some minor infractions of the working rules and by-laws but Brother Nutland pointed this out to the members and made it clear that if these infractions were continued the executive board would take drastic action. Brother Nutland is still making further investigations and we will give more information on this in our next letter.

For the benefit of our fireside members, who are too delicate to come out in this cold weather and consequently cannot attend meetings, we will give them a brief outline of the contemplated work that should be started or underway by early spring: The Women's College Hospital, at \$600,000. The St. John the Divine Convalescent Hospital, at \$300,000. An addition of \$750,000 to the Western Hospital. A government employment office building, amount not yet determined. An addition of \$90,000 to the Standard Sanitary now under way and which should be ready for electricians within the next three weeks. The filtration plant in the east end of the city. An addition to the Hyland Exchange of the Bell Telephone Company. A sewage treatment plant in the Don Valley, at \$800,000. A \$300,000 armory on Fleet Street, the building now under construction. A \$1,500,000 Provincial Hydro office building. Last, but not least, a fair sized addition to the Ontario Government Mental Hospital, at Mimico, and we are going to make sure this job is 100 per cent, because if the other jobs do not come through we expect to be the star patients there before very long.

We will welcome the criticism of our fireside members on this letter and be glad to receive any suggestions from other locals who may have found ways and means to induce their members to attend the odd meeting.

FRANK J. SELKE.

#### L. U. NO. 377, LYNN, MASS.

Editor:

In every local union there is one of his type—the quiet fellow who comes into the meeting, goes to the dark corner in the rear of the hall, lights his pipe and listens to the arguments pro and con, taking no sides, with no political axe to grind, and, after all sides have reached an impasse, rises humbly from his seat, and shows the way out, leaving all sides satisfied. Such a man was Sherman Yeaton. He answered the call when his country called, inhaled the enemy's foul gas, and continued the fight through the depression to hold his little family together.

When a tardy government, through the CWA, employed him as a supervisor, he again was called, his last call, to leave a world that, were it made up of such as he, would be free of all vice. Like Caesar, Sherman Yeaton was an honorable man, a union man in the full sense of the word. His was a character for us all to emulate. We could aim no higher, and, on behalf of Local No. 377, I extend to his family our heartfelt sympathy. Our loss is great; yours greater. He fought the fight, and we feel his Maker wanted the pattern.

EDWARD MCINERNEY.

#### L. U. NO. 409, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Editor:

Owing to the stress of Christmas activities, it seemed that every time I took up my pen someone had to come in and the pen was put back in the desk, and thereby the letter from L. U. No. 409 did not appear in the January issue of the JOURNAL.

However that may be, I will go briefly over the activities of the local meeting in December. The highlights of this meeting

were the operation of the organization committee and the success of those activities in the initiation of two members, a very creditable performance in these trying times.

At this meeting Brother Ingles was with us and he gave us an informal talk of great interest on labor conditions, mainly in the building trades. At the outset he warned us that he had no news of good tidings of great joy; he said conditions were exceedingly poor in the building trades and the electrical trade in particular wherever he went. At some length he dwelt on the conditions at Lac Seul where he said skilled men of almost every trade were working on this project for 20 cents per day. Medical attention was given, and the general health of the camp was supervised by a qualified medical man who received the princely sum of 20 cents per day. Prosperity is indeed around the corner.

From other sources I hear—for the authenticity of which I cannot vouch—that the frantic efforts these "unemployed" relief workers are exerting for this encouraging and stupendous stipend the work will take about 3,000 years to complete. The speaker dwelt on the misleading statements of Senators and pointed out one made by a certain Senator last August on employment figures in comparison with actual figures obtained at the Bureau of Statistics in Ottawa, and by his statement he made it appear that Canada had 25,000,000 unemployed. This case, of course, Mr. Editor and dear Brothers, is not unique. And we give them this power by our vote.

Brother Ingles finished his remarks by urging more craft organization and acquainting ourselves with the situation as the remedy against these evils.

On Wednesday, January 10, a mass meeting was held for all railway workers in the Winnipeg Auditorium concert hall. Some 900 were present and about 200 failed to gain admittance. The meeting was opposed to further amalgamation of the two railways. The chairman, F. W. Nicks, general chairman of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, western lines, outlined the stand of the workers. He sounded a note of warning to the "old line" political parties. He said workers today tended to believe that the two old parties were champions of the wealth-owning class and played into each other's hands when important matters came before the House. He said the object of the meeting was to bring home to the legislators the fact that rail workers were not satisfied with conditions and that they were unalterably opposed to further measures of co-ordination or amalgamation, which would detrimentally affect the workers. That all would agree that the time had come when some measure of co-ordination or amalgamation was needed, but this must be done in such a way that the railroads will become a publicly-owned utility, operated and controlled in the interests of the people of Canada, and with less concern shown for the comparatively small group of bond and share holders.

In addition to the rail workers, Members of Parliament of varying political shades addressed the meeting. Speakers included J. S. Woodsworth, M. P., C. C. F. leader; Major W. W. Kennedy, Conservative representative of South Center, Winnipeg; J. H. Stitt, Selkirk's member in the Dominion House, also a Conservative, and Hon. Peter Heenan, former Minister of Labor in the King government (Liberal). Mr. Woodsworth's address was, briefly, that the roads should come under public ownership, also truck lines and perhaps airways would have to be co-ordinated to serve the people.

The bound volumes of the 1933 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.



He dwelt at some length on the findings of the commission and their report. He said it was admitted on the floor of the House, that it was intended to protect the bondholders, that savings must be made, and that savings meant more cutting of personnel. Any further amalgamation will mean still further cutting.

Both the Conservative members supported the contents of the bill, upholding Mr. Bennett's statement of 1930—"Amalgamation never; competition ever."

Hon. Peter Heenan said it sounded to him like amalgamation, and in view of Mr. Bennett's pledge the railway bill was one of the most iniquitous things that ever happened in a democratic country that the bill should ever go to Parliament.

Senator Leudrum McMeans, from Winnipeg, was present but excused himself from speaking on the ground that he had come on very short notice and unprepared.

The resolution which was adopted at the close of the meeting read as follows:

"Be it resolved, That this meeting go on record reiterating its previous position as being opposed to any amalgamation of railways, either partial or in its entirety.

"That we also oppose any co-ordination of services which will result in dismissal of employees until ample provision has been made for said employees by finding them other equally remunerative employment or reasonable compensation for any loss sustained.

"That we further go on record as instructing our officers to continue their fight to protect the interests of the railway workers in the event of any further co-ordination of services being anticipated."

Before I sign off, just a word about the local meeting in January. The high light of this one was another proposition for membership which was unanimously accepted. This business putting other business in the shade, I will comment no further but lace on my snow shoes and hit across the prairie to catch the mail man to get this letter in on time.

R. J. GANT.

#### L. U. NO. 418, PASADENA, CALIF.

Editor:

Well, the New Year was ushered in with a record rainfall and the treat we invited you all to (via radio) in our last letter fell short. The usual good weather which so many distant listeners enjoy hearing about was absent. However, everything went through as planned, and organized labor's float took first prize in its division.

Perfect weather has prevailed since, every day warm and sunny, which may account for the lack of pep displayed by our late organizing committee. I say late, because it was found necessary to remove the body and appoint a new one. Results, 13 applications at our next meeting and more promised.

The state water conservation act was passed by a small majority, December 19, 1933, and progress is being made in financing it, so another great project may get started this year. This act is designed to provide cheaper water and power for central and northern California, together with flood control on certain rivers.

If the present rate of construction is continued at Boulder Dam and transmission lines completed, power from there may be delivered here by January, 1936. Pasadena's allotted share of 1.6183 per cent or 68,615,928 kilowatt hours per annum, with power from the recently acquired San Gabriel River plant, may make the operation of Pasadena's steam plant unnecessary for a

period of years, unless rates are greatly reduced and additional uses found for the surplus. Light department records show that each decrease in rates has increased receipts and profits; still efforts to reduce rates always meet with opposition from privately-owned utilities serving adjacent territory. (I am enclosing clippings showing the present trend toward reductions.)

The administration of CWA seems to have fallen into unfriendly hands here as elsewhere, and some of our Brothers are affected as a result. Public ownership enemies never rest, neither must we if we wish to defeat their selfish aims.

Organization work in Pasadena is progressing, hundreds of workers and several locals being added to union labor's ranks since NRA went into effect.

Our inside Brothers have made little progress and their attendance at meetings is poor indeed. The present scale for inside men is \$6 for seven hours and the seven hours can be any time or any day, according to most of our employers. We are all looking forward to the signing of our code to untangle some of our snarls and stop some of the chiseling going on.

H. W. HUNEVEN.

#### L. U. NO. 452, EASTON, PA.

Editor:

This is the first report from this new local, but we sincerely hope that it will be only the first of many. Along about the first of December this section began to hear the first rumors about organization of public utility employees. The I. B. E. W. had already started to get the Dover, N. J., branch of this system interested in the advantages of a good strong organization. From the first the idea went over big. Then the first meeting was called here at Easton and the response was good.

The organizer for this district, Mr. Emil Fackler, held a series of meetings here in Easton. As there was already a local in town of the I. B. E. W., it was the idea at first for the employees of the Metropolitan Edison Company to join this local and make it a mixed local. From the first the idea did not go over so well, as our work is to a large extent so different from that of the members of the local now in town.

We intended to take in all departments except the clerks. Mr. Fackler was asked if we could have a separate local of our own, to be composed of only the employees of the Metropolitan Edison Company and to name it as a utility local. It was possible. We then set up an organization committee to get up a drive for memberships. Conditions at the present time are not so good here and it isn't hard to convince the fellows that it is a great advantage to belong to an organization that gets results. The wage scales are low, there isn't the proper classification, and taken as a whole conditions are unsatisfactory.

January 8, the first definite step was taken to get the local under way. Twenty-six members signed an application for a charter and paid in full.

January 15, the charter was installed by Brother Fackler and the local became a fact.

January 22, officers were elected as follows: President, George J. Wilson; vice president, Earl H. Priest; recording secretary, Walter A. Rankin; financial secretary, Charles R. Cline; treasurer, George Willauer. Executive board members—William Hertzog, J. Milton Young, Norman Fetherman, Earl Priest, George Wilson, Charles R. Cline, Earl L. Kreitzer.

This new local is to be known as Utility Workers' Local No. 452, and has jurisdiction over Easton and outlying districts served by the Metropolitan Edison Company and the New Jersey Power and Light Company of the Associated Gas and Electric System.

To date there are 85 applications turned in with 27 paid up members.

With locals in Easton, Reading, Du Boise, Erie and scattered all through the state of Pennsylvania, it is our purpose to have a district council composed of delegates of each local in the Associated Gas and Electric System in the state. The district executive council is to meet at some central point whenever necessary to discuss and act on matters concerning us all, as they appear.

Meetings are to be held at regular intervals. At present there is nothing definite yet concerning the council.

That is about all the news from this outfit at the present, but there will be more later as it happens.

News was received at our meeting, January 28, that the fellows at Reading, Pa., had their charter installed on Friday night, January 26; so, that is one more local started in the Associated System.

We do hereby appeal to all employees of the Associated Gas and Electric System to follow the lead of the locals already in the I. B. E. W., and sign up and follow the banner of the NRA.

WALTER A. RANKIN.

#### L. U. NO. 549, HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

Editor:

Pro and con discussion of the Roosevelt administration, as compared with Fascism, is just another old American custom.

In the same manner that we judge the quality of an apple by its comparison with other apples we have tasted, or the workmanship of a finished job by others we have seen, so we are prone to dissect and examine with an eye toward its parallels in contemporary history this novel, unpolitical, unprecedented, and we might add unethical administration of the New Deal.

Old standards and criteria do not seem to fit in with Roosevelt's methods. We have endured a federal and state political supervision so long that anything that might savor of statesmanship is a too radical departure for us to comprehend.

The NRA, with its demand for co-operative rather than individualistic effort, was a severe blow to many to whom it entailed a personal loss. Labor yielded much by reduced hours of labor and consequent reduced remuneration, as well as did capital and the small business man, these latter being forced to dig into their pockets in order to meet the stringent regulations embodied in their codes.

This unethical procedure with its Utopian features worked hardships on many. To my mind, however, the end justified the means, if for no other reason than the spirit of co-operation and joint endeavor which it, in a large measure, created.

The NRA, I think, was the first great step toward a return to normal. The bank moratorium and the return in large measure of confidence inspired by the steadying by



#### VEST CHAIN SLIDE CHARM

A watch charm so fine looking you'll enjoy wearing it. Of 10-karat gold trimmed with a circle of tiny imitation pearls, and clearly displaying the I. B. E. W. insignia. Priced only \$5



a firm hand (lacking for so these many years) of the ship of state, had already fixed the depression's most timely demise.

The administration's efforts did not cease at this point, however. Winter was closing in and millions were still unemployed. It was a large problem and feeble efforts would be unavailing—as witness the Hoover R. F. C.

An inspired Congress had granted broad powers and action was rapid-fire. The CCC sprang into being. The CWA found life. Mortgage assistance was given to thousands of home owners. Needy farmers were paid for untilled soil. These and countless other reliefs were inaugurated.

Their benefits were almost immediate. Young men and old men with willing hands were given honest work, rather than left in idleness—idleness which breeds revolution and consequent disaster. Work of rehabilitation of human beings by clearance of slums and similar blots on our high civilization was begun and other laudable projects started throughout our country.

Countless thousands of dollars were released by the workers to the butcher and baker and candlestick maker, and in turn to the distributor and manufacturer, which cycle gradually is giving impetus to the wheels of industry.

To do this required a vast sum of money, which was quickly obtained. War and destruction of lives had demanded its billions. Peace and the salvation of lives for once had a favorable day in court.

Die-hard Republicans and ultra-conservatives view with alarm and will point to the mistakes of the administration policies and the instances where the foregoing statements are not substantiated. They will also lament the load of debt passed on to future generations.

In dealing for some 130,000,000 of people, it would be difficult to hand axes to all or to bring a simultaneous benefit to such a multitude.

A four-year fall can hardly be reascended in one-quarter of that time. The future generations on whose unwilling shoulders the cost of reconstruction must fall and for whom loud wails of commiseration are now being raised, might never have existed in their entirety except for the preservation of the present one.

Let us then seek a new standard for comparison by which to judge this administration. The foresight of Washington and Jefferson and the courage of Lincoln might better be used as a yardstick than the policies of Hitlerism or Fascism or what have you.

JAMES W. GRAYBILL.

#### L. U. NO. 595, OAKLAND, CALIF.

Editor:

The year 1934 finds us still struggling with Old Man Depression, but in a slightly more cheerful frame of mind, for while the future still appears uncertain from the workers' standpoint, there are a few bright spots on the horizon, if we study the situation closely.

The public works program should do much to relieve the situation if it proceeds according to schedule, and the mistakes and confusion of CWA are not duplicated in PWA. The CWA is, without question, a timely and necessary relief measure, but, being designed to operate for a few short months only, must soon be ended; and if PWA does not get into its full stride closely following the cessation of CWA activities, what next? At the start of CWA in this locality the writer saw hundreds of unemployed men from all walks of life

fighting for a place in line for a chance to secure a pick and shovel job at 60 cents an hour, 24 hours a week—the munificent sum of \$14.40 a week for a man to support a family on.

Can we not see the task which confronts organized labor to bring back a decent normal living standard for the worker, who when beaten through years of unemployment is content with anything which promises a payday of some sort?

This willingness to accept employment on the part of the unorganized worker under any conditions and wages, is a powerful weapon in the hands of the employing groups in submitting low wage levels under NRA codes, and any protest from the worker, if existent, must be feeble.

Now, why the sudden change in the attitude of industry toward NRA? When first introduced, NRA was met with lack of co-operation, and even hostility from big business; now big business appears to welcome it. Does industry see in NRA an instrument to aid them in outlawing strikes and otherwise hampering the labor movement? That this was not the intent of NRA, I am certain, and my confidence in the man in the White House remains unshaken; but the representatives of labor in Washington must be constantly alert and prepared to resist to the last ditch any infringement of the rights promised labor in the New Deal, if we are to benefit under NRA.

The six-hour day measure will undoubtedly be before Congress by the time this is printed in the JOURNAL (if ever), and if it becomes a law, which it should, it brings up a question which must receive some attention: What is to become of the middle aged worker in industry—the man unable to adapt himself to the speed-up which inevitably follows the shortening of working hours? Will unemployment insurance legislation, if enacted, cover his case, or will he become a charge on society at the age of 50 or 55? That this is a problem which must be faced appears certain.

The money question is the big issue now receiving the attention of our national law-making bodies, and in my opinion may be safely left to those who understand it. The gold content of the dollar does not directly affect the worker whose entire energy is directed toward getting some kind of a dollar that will keep a roof over the heads of himself and family, and something on the pantry shelf. Personally, the writer has come to two, and only two, definite and concrete conclusions concerning it:

1. It is hard to get hold of.
2. It is still harder to hang on to.

And why privately owned banks, anyhow? The R. F. C. itself performs many of the functions of the bank, why not go a step further and inaugurate federal owned and controlled banks for commercial banking, and also extend the postal savings system to receive unlimited deposits?

Under the present set-up, the control of the banking situation has a more direct influence in the affairs of our citizens than the educational or postal systems which are government controlled; and while federal owned banks would not eliminate the recurrence of depressions from time to time, it would do much to minimize their effect.

J. J. YOUNG.

#### L. U. NO. 723, FORT WAYNE, IND.

Editor:

The writer is very much impressed by the character and talent in statesmanship possessed by our government representatives, who are now convening in the 73rd session of Congress. A careful study from

various newspapers has proven to the reader that the calibre of men elected to represent us in our government was chosen with great thought for the future.

Our Congressmen and Senators have a gigantic task ahead of them, with the financial, industrial, agricultural and social problems which must be settled and made law in conformity with the NRA, and then to consider the economic situation, which is a colossal job itself. The action of these statesmen will determine at what speed our present recovery towards normal times will be continued.

More interest in the functioning of our government has been shown during the past 12 months than ever before, I believe, and for the sake of loved ones, our homes, our country, and the succeeding generations, let us all do our part, however small it may seem. Don't resolve and promise yourself; get busy, let us show our representatives that we are interested in our welfare, which is undoubtedly held in the balance by their manipulations.

Personally, I don't believe in the method of dictating to our various Congressmen and Senators; they were elected on their merits and capabilities as statesmen, so give them the privilege of personal thought and conviction, but write to them, if they show honesty of thought and common horse sense; let them know you appreciate their action, check up at various times on the bills presented to various important House committees, and whatever you do watch the opposition against collective bargaining as written in Section 7 (a) (our greatest asset), in the law of the NIRA. Our fortification is due for an awful barrage, presented by long-range guns of such traditional labor foes as the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Manufacturers Association.

If you have a good thought, send it post-haste to your own Representative in Washington. Give our own labor men a boost by mentioning that you personally believe that organized labor is the only protective agency and assurance of prosperity for the working class.

In the past, we have been too content; we squat down on a ringside seat, watching the various legislative political fights. Now, let's get in the ring a little ourselves, and learn more of the art of governing governments. You as a citizen know that thrill which comes from seeing Old Glory lead a parade; you are proud of our national utilities, our social and industrial possibilities, our country at large, its government, of which you are a part, and you are certainly a believer in democracy. This country of ours possesses a splendid form of government, providing that we are governed according to the Constitution, so let us, as members of organized labor, do our part.

Our local is building up a fine organization. Of course, we haven't finished our job as yet; the officers are just coming up for air, before we make another dive for new members.

Credit galore is due our officers and members who have actively participated in the hard work involved by the boost of membership. Brother Roy McDonald deserves honorable mention for his hard work and leadership, given unstintingly on behalf of his co-workers at the telephone company, and we, as a unit of the great organization of electrical workers, are proud of our new members.

Vice President Mike Boyle was with us two weeks ago, and he surely did inspire the young Brothers. We are anticipating his return at an early date, and hope he can



afford to spare a little more of his time on the next visit.

Our organization wishes our sick Brothers a speedy recovery to normal health, not only our local members, but also all other Brothers who are afflicted.

W. H. LEWIS.

#### L. U. NO. 734, NORFOLK, VA.

Editor:

##### Meet the Gang

(Continued from last month)

Brother Roy L. Branch was born April 16, 1908, and received his early education in the Portsmouth, Va., public schools. While attending Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth, in 1921, Brother Branch moved to Norfolk County and transferred to the Craddock High School. Following his graduation in 1925, he enrolled in the apprentice school at the Norfolk Navy Yard and finished his apprenticeship in 1929. Branch has been a member of Local Union No. 734 since 1930.

Brother G. R. Clair was born at Norfolk, Va., February 26, 1881. He was a member of Local No. 734 in 1926 but after leaving the Norfolk Navy Yard "Romey" worked in Norfolk, Miami, and Richmond. At present he is a member of Local Union No. 80, in Norfolk.

(To be continued)

SAUVAN.

#### L. U. NO. 773, WINDSOR, ONT.

Editor:

Our Brothers on the other side of the herring pond seem to be having a certain amount of success in their dealings with Hank Ford.

I will give you an extract from a letter I received from the Electrical Trades Union of Great Britain, recently, in reply to mine asking how they were getting along with the gentleman in question, at the new Dagenham, London, England, plant:

"I note that you are desirous of information in respect to Messrs. Henry Ford's works at Dagenham. It is true that the union was in dispute with these works some 18 months or two years ago, but the dispute was not with Messrs. Henry Ford, but with a contractor who was carrying out electrical installation on Ford's plant. We were, however, in actual dispute with Messrs. Kelsey Hayes Wheel Works, Ltd., and Briggs Bodies, which two firms are subsidiary undertakings of the Ford Company. I may say that we were not wholly successful in our dispute with either the main contractor to the Ford Works, or with Messrs. Kelsey Hayes or Briggs Bodies.

"So far as any agreement with the firm, we have not been able to arrive at any agreement with them. This is mainly due to the fact that all three firms have around them a type of man that is difficult to organize. I may say, however, that we have a fair number of members in the employ of all three firms and negotiations take place, and the firm knows that the negotiators are members of either our own union or the Amalgamated Engineering Union. The firm will not recognize them as representatives of either the Amalgamated Engineering Union or of the Electrical Trades Union, but will only recognize them as representing the workpeople in the employ of the firm."

The writer, in company with Brother Bob Shellabarger (who has many friends in the U. S.), has made several trips of late over to Detroit. President Roosevelt is certainly keeping his promise to put men back to work. That city went right ahead when

they got the New Deal. Again, hats off to a man who does something besides talk.

In my next letter I will give some facts and figures that will be useful information should you meet any of the National Union fraternity. We had them here in full force a few days ago. Most impressive, according to our one and only newspaper report. It is very appalling to see some tradesmen so easily gulled. But, thank goodness, the electricians are not in the same category.

We would like to hear through the JOURNAL, how Brother Broach is coming along, and hope the report will be good.

BILL COLSON.

#### L. U. NO. 914, THOROLD, ONT.

Editor:

I am sending you a photograph of the Christmas tree and children of the members of L. U. No. 914 at Thorold. The members of the electrical staff of the Ontario Paper Company put on a Christmas tree party for the children of the members. A great time was had by all present—the older folks having a great time as the kiddies were given presents by Santa Claus, that part being played by our versatile Brother R. Bradley. A buffet lunch was then served, everyone being kept interested at all times by our snappy committee, C. Tracy, president, F. Johnson, G. Cyr, W. Coplen and R. Bradley. The financial secretary, A. G. King, gave selections on the piano which were well received by all.

ALFRED G. KING.

#### L. U. NO. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA.

Editor:

Since some time has passed since this local has been heard from (and not a few of the boys have been complaining about the lack of publicity in the JOURNAL), I have again made the resolution to return to the job of keeping the boys throughout the continent posted on the latest news and developments in this locality.

With a little rosier outlook for the new year, the boys all have better spirits and quite a few smiles are observed around the hall on meeting nights, not to mention the increased attendance.

The new members taken into our local under the open charter have had sufficient time to become accustomed to the doings and sayings of the old timers and are now beginning to fit into the scheme of organized labor as well as thinking in terms of it.

Every time that a gathering is now held, the topic of conversation sooner or later drifts into a discussion of the NRA and the benefits that labor has derived or will derive from its inauguration; but one thing that is brought forcibly and indelibly into my mind since the advent of the New Deal is the fact that in every civic program which is undertaken organized labor is extended an invitation to participate, whereas formerly, these organizations were—intentionally or unintentionally, as the case may be—overlooked by the politicians and civic lords in their undertakings, whether public or private in nature. So that, as we can readily see, we have at least achieved some sort of recognition by the powers that be.

Practically all of our boys who have obtained employment on the various CWA projects in and around the city as electricians are employed in the capacity of foremen. This speaks very well for the standards of the I. B. of E. W., and should encourage more craftsmen to take advantage of the specialized training which many of the locals have to offer in our particular line of endeavor. Helping the tradesmen to obtain a better knowledge of their trades is one of the most important duties of a trades union and in selecting men for membership some attention should be paid to the latent ability of the prospective members to assimilate the knowledge which the various locals are able to provide for them through courses of instruction, as are now followed by most of the locals throughout the continent. At present the electrical trade enjoys a very dignified and complimentary classification by the U. S. Government, and in order to preserve this classification and possibly to improve it, we should do all in our power to lift our organization to a still higher plane of intellectual achievement; and this can be done only by improving the mechanics already within the organization and keeping their knowledge up to date in a technical manner, and demanding that prospective members meas-



L. U. No. 914, Thorold, Ont., Gave a Delightful Christmas Party For the Children of Members of L. U. No. 914.



ure up to the mental and moral standards already set by the initiated members.

We cannot mention improvement of organization without calling to mind a very important factor in its development and progress and one that to my personal knowledge and opinion is second to none—THE JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND OPERATORS. Brothers, let me tell you one thing, if there is any one thing that makes me proud to belong to this wonderful organization it is our JOURNAL. This publication is recognized by the foremost teachers and students of economics as the most outstanding labor magazine of its sort and we should feel very proud and elated over this fact as this publication is a gauge of the mentality and intellectuality of our members. I agree with Brother R. S. Roseman, of L. U. No. 28, and "The Wire Fixer," of L. U. No. 51, that it is "The elite of real progressive publications," and wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the editor, his staff and contributors for the remarkable work they have performed in the past and we sincerely hope that the future holds an even more successful career in store for them.

To keep the fellows from thinking that I am trying to write the whole JOURNAL, I will short this thing out before I blow somebody's fuse and start some trouble.

Regards from the gang to Brothers H. Wilbur and R. A. Brogan.

L. C. FOURRIER.

## L. U. NO. 1147, WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WIS.

Editor:

Long time, no see um L. U. No. 1147 in print, so here she is! It may be this long until you see it again. We're still doing business at the same old stand, and haven't much to complain of. All our members are working, with the exception of Brother Sam Becker, who is on the sick list. We are working on the 40 and 42 hour week system and have been for the last two years. Our employing company was one of the first to go on a shorter workweek and did so at the request of the various local unions under contract with it.

We had a raise of 4 per cent on November 27 and another raise of 6 per cent January 1, making a total increase of 10 per cent in six weeks. We had a cut of 10 per cent during the depression, so we are still 9 per cent shy of our old rate.

At our last meeting in December we had a very welcome increase in our membership. The entire crew of the city electrical department joined up. These 15 men will certainly be a great help to us and I am quite sure we can help them. In honor of the occasion a barrel of beer and a wheelbarrow load of sandwiches were rolled in. I don't know how the other fellows made out, but for the first time in my life, I had to quit a keg before it was empty. I did my damndest but it wasn't good enough to empty the keg.

Since L. U. No. 1147 last appeared in print, we also had three new members in our own crew, Brother Wiperman, in the powerhouse, and Brothers Nelly Nelson and Ed. Kabitsky, in the maintenance crew.

PRESS SECRETARY, L. U. No. 1147.



**DIAMOND-SHAPED BUTTONS**  
To wear in your coat lapel, carry the emblem and insignia of the I. B. E. W. Gold faced and handsomely enameled. **\$2.50**

## Brotherhood of the Dead

Union Member Breaks Into  
Columns of Washington,  
Pa., Reporter

Francis P. Salmon, member of Local Union 5, enlightens elite readers as to the horrors of unemployment:

The year is that of 1934, and starvation, desolation and desperation still exist within our midst on a very large scale.

An insufficient amount of relief is being doled out by the government that barely keeps those who receive it alive.

Pity those who receive this relief. Let us visualize the thoughts and fears of him who depends upon it for existence.

The night before he is to receive his meager check, a fear begins to grip his heart. He retires and is unable to sleep. What if upon the morrow there is nothing for him? What will he do; there is nothing to eat for his half starved family. The children ate the last there was for supper. He has been depending upon his order. He begins to think of the time past when he had a job and sufficient for his needs. Maybe that will return again. He rolls over to a troubled sleep, praying that his luck will change soon.

Dawn is slowly breaking as he awakes with a start. What was that noise that awoke him? Why it's the factory whistles blowing! He crawls out of bed and begins to dress hurriedly and then stops suddenly. Why I must have been dreaming and thought I still had a job. But those days have passed. The mantle of gloom again settles upon his face as he crawls back into bed. "No use of getting up yet, nothing to do today but go get my order." Time passes rapidly and he must leave for the place where they distribute the orders. As he approaches this place fear again grips his heart and with a dejected air he lines up with the rest of the unfortunates and awaits his turn.

While waiting he looks around at the rest in the line. No smiles here. Just a dead, dull look upon everyone's face. "Why," he thinks. "Why surely; this is the 'Brotherhood of the Dead': Their souls are dead, their hopes, their ambitions, their faith in their fellow-man. Their brains? Why, they, too, are almost dead. They have passed beyond the thinking stage. Someone else is doing it for them. There are huddled here like a bunch of innocent sheep. Well named this, the 'Brotherhood of the Dead.'" His turn comes to go before the board, and again the fear and uncertainty grip him as he enters the room in which they are working. He gives his name in a weak, shaking voice. His fear is so apparent that the clerk looks up in pity. His check is found and handed to him. A happy look comes into his face. New blood seems to surge through his veins and his walk takes on a snappier stride as he leaves the sta-

tion. "No worry about food for another week."

Forgotten then that he is also a member of this "Brotherhood of the Dead." But, still, he is only human after all, and his spirit and hopes shall carry on through life to the real "Brotherhood of the Dead."

## OLD-FASHIONED REMEDIES STILL BEST FOR COLDS

That medical science knows, in reality, nothing better for a cold than to stay home and let it get well is admitted by a recent editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association, official spokesman for the profession in the United States. "The tendency of the common cold," the editors write, "is to be self-limited. At the end of three days the patient is generally better or beginning to get a more serious disease." Simple home remedies used for generations in countries where colds are common are about as good as anything. These include going to bed, increasing perspiration by hot-water bottles and by hot drinks which are alkaline instead of acid, the careful use of simple drugs to reduce fever and pain, and especially watchful waiting for the appearance of any symptom of a more serious disease. There is much advertisement nowadays, the editors note, of remedies, special foods, ray treatments and other procedures supposed to cure colds or to prevent them. In the present State of medical science, the experts conclude, all such procedure for cold prevention are to be distrusted in favor of the time-honored and thoroughly tested advice to stay out of crowds, to keep the head cool and the feet warm and especially to keep away from people who have colds so that germ infection can be avoided as much as possible. This last, the editors recognize, may be impossible for most people under present conditions.

## BEST WAY TO REMOVE HAIR

The best way to remove superfluous hair has been the subject of a questionnaire sent to a number of distinguished skin specialists in Europe by a group of German experts. The only method generally approved is the electric needle, used to kill each individual hair by expert insertion of the needle into the living cell at the hair's root. The use of X-rays to remove disfiguring hair is almost universally condemned as being highly dangerous to the skin and even to the health of the patient; an opinion long shared by American skin specialists. Even the few of the European experts who favor the use of X-rays at all stipulate that these powerful rays must be used with extreme care and only by an X-ray specialist. Safety razors and electric clippers set to cut off the offending hairs close to the skin are considered harmless but relatively ineffective, since the hairs grow back visibly in a day or two. Tweezers, skillfully used to pull out individual hairs, also are approved as harmless but are not much better than shaving or clipping since pulling out a hair does not kill the hair cell at its root. Rubbing off undesired hairs with a small piece of pumice stone is slow but possible and experts agree that if this is persisted in for years it may weaken the hair cells so that they die. Warning is issued, however, that this pumice-stone method is likely to cause irritation of the skin, resulting in thickening or infection. The same criticism of a serious danger of irritation is leveled against the chemical depilatories now much used, most of which depend on mildly corrosive compounds of the elements barium or strontium.



## IN MEMORIAM

### In Memory of Brother William W. Welsh

On January 11, 1934, the Baltimore newspapers carried the following brief announcement in the death column: "Welsh—On January 10, 1934, William W., beloved husband of the late Laura Welsh. Funeral services from his home, 1520 E. Preston St., on Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock."

Had this man chosen to give as unstintingly of his mind and effort in behalf of big business, instead of making his contributions for the betterment of conditions for his fellow workers in the labor movement, there is little doubt that the same papers would have carried articles at least a column in length, vividly portraying his accomplishments. In order that men who have unselfishly decided to serve this most worthy though often ungrateful cause be encouraged and that one who was truly a pioneer in advancing trades unionism be fittingly remembered, the writer decided in his humble way to try to do justice to the memory of a real he-man through the medium of our JOURNAL.

The writer does not possess the ability of the hirelings of the press, so if the readers feel that "Bill" (as he was affectionately called by all who knew him) has been slighted, it may be attributed to deep emotion and inability to find the words and properly arrange them.

"Bill," while he died at the age of 68, started in the electrical business as an arc lamp trimmer and served valiantly in the front lines through the unsuccessful strike of L. U. No. 27, in 1900, against the Consolidated Electric Light and Power Company. This strike proved to be a loss to L. U. No. 27, but was a distinct gain for L. U. No. 28, in that "Bill" became a very active and dynamic force in the affairs of our local. One of the first to recognize his own shortcomings (a trait characteristic of leaders), he accepted membership in our local as a helper, realizing his lack of experience on construction work. He was one of the few as a helper to become president of a local union of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. His ability as a leader at once became apparent and he never wavered or permitted himself to stray from the principles that should guide all true, loyal trades unionists.

Two events are called from memory which really serve as testimonials to the courage, tact and resourcefulness of the man, and at the same time portray his unselfish traits. During one of our troublesome periods he was called upon by a thoughtless radical to decide between death or sacrifice of the aims and ideals for which the organization stood. His decision was unflinchingly in favor of the former and was so convincing that it completely disarmed his opponent. Another incident took place at the beginning of the strike at the Crown Cork and Seal Company, when Mr. Hood, president of the company, being cognizant of "Bill's" leadership, evidently reasoned that to persuade him to continue at work would be helpful to Mr. Hood's cause. Consequently, he made allur-

ing offers to "Bill"—offers that few but the unselfish and strong could have resisted. He was listened to with painful patience, born of courtesy, but the answer was swift: "I am deeply grateful for the opportunity that this company has given me, but as a trades unionist I have no other course than leave with my fellow workers." The reply to this was somewhat delayed, perhaps by a realization of the gravity of the situation, and is a true compliment to the man, because under these circumstances it would not have been a thoughtless statement: "Welsh, you are one union man that I respect."

As with all strong men, he was not without his enemies, but even among these he commanded respect. In a last desperate effort to break his iron will those who did not or would not understand what he was trying to accomplish, christened him "Czar." Whether he liked the moniker or not was never revealed, but he seemed to thrive, either in spite of it or because of it, and continued on, developing into the best president our local union has had and served in that capacity longer than any other member.

In the local labor movement, he contributed much in behalf of progress to the Baltimore Building Trades Council and the Baltimore Federation of Labor. Few were the grievance committees of the latter organization that did not find his services valuable in the adjustment of difficulties. Nationally, many of the regular delegates will remember him as delegate from Local Union No. 28, and those attending our convention will recall him as a member of the important credentials committee.

He was also an organizer of the District Council and in that position was responsible for the complete rearrangement of the overhead wiring in a mining town of Pennsylvania having about 130,000 population. This was accomplished by taking advantage of an existing political situation through the medium of a statement given to the press. Thus he proved the old adage, "The pen is mightier than the sword," gave employment to many members of the I. B. E. W., and secured safety for the benefit of the public.

Over a long period of time he served on the executive board. The new constitutional requirement of a board of not more than seven members, terminated this long service. He was a trustee until 1932.

It was, however, as business manager, or walking delegate, as they then were called, that his most lasting contribution was made to the local union—although able as he was it is doubtful whether he was conscious of it. He was the first business agent, at least locally, to seek progress through the application of knowledge rather than rely on or resort to the strike and the boycott. These weapons he knew to be necessary at times, but often expensive. He was first, also, to appreciate that democracy was practical only so long as it worked. This may have prompted the nickname "Czar." Being a pioneer in these policies made it much less difficult for the men who followed in this office.

Possessing an able mind, more than a working knowledge of psychology (although it is doubtful if he knew just what it was), a practical understanding of political

science, a keen sense of humor, modesty to a fault, and a sort of sixth sense—call it what you may—that was able to remove the veneer and distinguish the genuine from imitation, his counsel was sought, not only by our members, but others in his wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

"Bill" died as he had lived, in the midst of gallant battle, and was buried as he would have desired, with Brothers C. Carter, M. Schnitzlein, H. Makinson, J. Stickler, J. Hebner, and W. German acting as pallbearers.

Anyone having the ambition to leave this world just a little better than he found it will find the active life of this loyal trades unionist serving as a beacon to light the way. It is because of this that many will mourn his passing. May St. Peter be kind to his soul, as a fitting reward for his earthly labors in behalf of his fellow men.

ONE OF THEM.

### Jack Whitewood, L. U. No. 568

Yesterday has gone forever. We live in the stern realities of today—and hopes of tomorrow as we move onward through life, side by side, in the path of our duties. But frequently a step is missing from the ranks of our Brotherhood, a face that we have known so well is seen no more. Yet we go not forward alone; the memory of the one gone before remains with us. And it is with deep sorrow that we, the members of Local Union No. 568, I. B. E. W., of Montreal, have been called upon to pay our last respects to our esteemed late Brother Whitewood; be it therefore

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved ones of his family in their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local be draped for a period of 30 days. And that a copy of these resolutions be sent his sister and to his aunt. Also a copy be spread on the minutes of this local union, and one be sent the official Journal of our Brotherhood for publication.

EMILE LANDRIEAULT,  
OSCAR BOYER,  
A. S. MACFARLANE,

Committee.

A. S. MACFARLANE, Recording Secretary.

### Charles Potts, L. U. No. 8

Whereas the Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from this earth our beloved Brother, Charles Potts, and it is with deep sorrow that we mourn the loss of this Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of Local Union No. 8, I. B. E. W., extend to the family and relatives of our late Brother Potts our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in this hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of our Brother, also a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family, and also that a copy be spread on our minutes, and a copy be sent to the official Journal for publication.

ARTHUR LANG,  
PAUL MAHER,  
ELMER LEDFORD,

Committee.

### Lester Swanson, L. U. No. 200

Whereas the Almighty God, Creator and Ruler of the world, has in His infinite wisdom seen fit to take from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, Lester Swanson; and

Whereas Local Union No. 200, I. B. E. W., has lost in the passing of Brother Swanson one of its true and loyal members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 200 extend its sincere sympathy to his wife and family; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local, L. U. No. 200, be draped for a period of 30 days; also, be it further

Resolved, That a copy be spread upon the minutes of Local No. 200 and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers' Journal for publication.

ED. SWANSON,  
ED EWING,  
WM. SMITH,

Committee.



**George Payne, L. U. No. 6**

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has removed from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, George Payne; and

Whereas the officers and members of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., deeply regret the untimely passing of our friend and Brother member; therefore be it

Resolved, by the members of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., in regular session assembled, That we extend to the family of our late departed Brother, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our late Brother, George Payne; That a copy be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 6, and that a copy be sent to the International Office with a request that they be published in the official Journal; and be it further

Resolved, That when we adjourn this meeting we do so in respect to the memory of our late Brother, and that the charter of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in continued respect to his memory.

ALBERT E. COHN,  
W. GIMMEL,  
FRED S. DESMOND,

Committee on Resolutions.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted at the regular meeting of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., held on Wednesday, January 3, 1934.

CHAS. B. WEST, President.

J. McKNIGHT, Recording Secretary.

**Joseph Kelly, L. U. No. 200**

Whereas the Almighty God, Creator and Ruler of the world, has in His infinite wisdom seen fit to take from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, Joseph Kelly; and

Whereas Local Union No. 200, I. B. E. W., has lost in the passing of Brother Kelly one of its true and loyal members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 200 extend its sincere sympathy to his wife and family; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local No. 200 be draped for a period of 30 days; also be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon the minutes of Local Union No. 200 and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers' Journal for publication.

W. R. BRESNAHAN,  
STEVE STANNISH,  
GEORGE HARTZELL,

Committee.

**Fred L. Gerbrick, L. U. No. 17**

Whereas It has pleased the Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to take unto his bosom our beloved friend and Brother, Fred L. Gerbrick; and

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 17, deeply mourn his passing and extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family in this, their dark hour of sorrow; therefore be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy be spread on the minutes, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication.

WM. FROST,  
S. M. WHITE,  
WM. McMAHON,

Committee.

**Fred Reese, L. U. No. 17**

It is with regret that we, the members of Local Union No. 17, of Detroit, Mich., are called upon to record the passing from our ranks of our Brother, Fred Reese; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by expressing our deepest sympathy to his wife and children in their hour of bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his widow, a copy be spread upon the minutes of our local union, and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory.

WM. FROST,  
SETH WHITE,  
WM. I. SPECK,

Committee.

**Stanley Colberson, L. U. No. 537**

It is with a sincere feeling of loss that the members of Local Union No. 537, I. B. E. W., San Francisco, Calif., regret the passing of Brother Stanley Colberson, a member of this organization of 27 years standing. A man honored and respected by all with whom he came in contact.

Resolved, That in fond recollection of his good personality and character, we sincerely sympathize with his wife and family and many friends; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family, a copy be spread upon our minutes, and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication.

L. D. WILSON,  
FRED KNUDSEN,  
C. F. COOPER,

Committee.

F. DOUGAN, Secretary.

Adopted by Local No. 537, January 1, 1934.

**Fred J. Baker, L. U. No. 354**

It is with regret that we, the members of Local Union 354, of Salt Lake City, Utah, are called upon to record the passing from our ranks of our Brother, Fred J. Baker; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory, by expressing our deepest sympathy to his wife in her hour of bereavement; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his widow, a copy spread upon the minutes of our local union, and a copy sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory.

D. C. CARMAN,  
JAMES PEEFFERS,  
LYMAN CONYERS,

Committee.

**Harry L. Fitzpatrick, L. U. No. 212**

Whereas It has been the will of Divine Providence to remove from our midst our esteemed and beloved Brother, Harry L. Fitzpatrick, and

Whereas L. U. No. 212 has lost a true Brother and the community an untiring worker in the cause of union labor; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of L. U. No. 212 hereby extend their sincere sympathy and heartfelt condolence to his wife and family; and be it further

Resolved, That as a body we stand in silence for one minute in his memory, and that we drape our charter for a period of 30 days and also that a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes and a copy be mailed to the International Office for publication in our official Journal.

E. W. SIMONTON,  
Press Secretary.

**George W. Smith, L. U. No. 548**

It is with deep sorrow and regret that the members of Local Union No. 548, of Guelph, Ont., mourn the death of our Brother, George W. Smith; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by standing for one minute in silence at our regular meeting and that we express to his wife and family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon our minutes, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days in further respect to his memory.

S. HOWARTH,  
A. OWENS,  
G. R. MARTIN,

Committee.

**Edward J. Hall, L. U. No. 406**

It is with deep sorrow and regret that the members of Local Union 406, I. B. E. W., mourn the death of our Brother, Edward Hall; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread on our minutes and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days.

K. COCKBURN,  
Secretary.

**Gustav Meggenberg, L. U. No. 263**

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our dearly beloved Brother, Gustav Meggenberg, who departed from this life on January 18, 1934; and

Whereas because he has faithfully performed his duties since the inception of this local, both as an officer and in the ranks; therefore be it

Resolved, that we, the members of Local Union No. 263, I. B. E. W., extend our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our late departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of Local Union No. 263, I. B. E. W., a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal, also to the Dubuque Labor Leader, and a copy be sent to the family of our late Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in the sincere respect and memory that we hold for our departed Brother.

H. F. PFEFFER,  
B. J. HANNAN,  
HARRY HANLEY,

Committee.

**Clarence Jennings, L. U. No. 245**

It is with the deepest sorrow and regret that we, the members of Local No. 245 mourn the death of our beloved Brother, Clarence Jennings; therefore be it

Resolved, That the tribute we pay this member is by expressing our sincere sympathy to his family; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, and shall appear in the minutes of our local and a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in our official Journal; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

E. H. WANDTKE,  
E. L. HARTLIEB,  
E. E. DUKESHIRE,

Committee.

**C. F. Shepherd, L. U. No. 760**

Whereas It has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our worthy Brother, C. F. Shepherd; and

Whereas in the death of Brother Shepherd Local Union No. 760, I. B. E. W., has lost one of its most loyal and devoted members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 760 acknowledges its great loss in the death of our Brother and hereby expresses its appreciation of his devotion to our cause; and be it further;

Resolved, That Local Union No. 760 extends its sympathy to the family of our late Brother in their great sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our late Brother, a copy be placed on the minutes of Local Union No. 760 and a copy be sent to the official Journal of our Brotherhood for publication.

E. M. HEADRICK,  
R. P. GANO,  
J. K. MEEHAN,  
J. E. SHOEMAKER,

Committee.

**John A. Sykes, L. U. No. 585**

The officers and members of Local Union No. 585, El Paso, Texas, with deepest regret record the passing of our Brother and president, John A. Sykes;

Whereas because of his long and faithful service to the cause of unionism, both as a member and an officer since the inception of this local;

Whereas the ability and understanding he exercised in handling the affairs of this local will long be held in grateful remembrance by all;

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by standing one minute in silence at regular meetings; that we express to his wife and daughter our sincere sympathy; and further be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon our minutes, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication; and be it

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days in deepest respect for his memory.

JACK BURKHOLDER,  
BERT STEVENSON,  
JAMES L. BRETZ,

Committee.



**William T. Hall, L. U. No. 713**

Whereas the silent messenger of death has again invaded our local union and removed from our midst our friend and Brother, William T. Hall; and

Whereas in the sudden passing of Brother Hall, Local Union No. 713, I. B. E. W., has lost a true and loyal member; therefore be it Resolved, That we extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and family; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter be draped for a period of 30 days; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Brother Hall, a copy be spread on the minutes of the local union, and a copy be sent to the official Journal for publication.

JOHN A. JACKSON,  
JOHN ESCHER,  
FRANK MANHEIM,  
Committee.

**Al. Brandt, L. U. No. 50**

It is with deep sorrow and regret that the members of Local Union No. 50, I. B. E. W., mourn the death of our Brother, Al. Brandt; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by standing for one minute in silence at regular meeting and that we express to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon our minutes and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of this local union be draped for a period of 30 days in further respect to his memory.

P. E. GALLIGHER,  
O. A. WILSON,  
W. L. HURVEY,  
Committee.

**Henry Cover, L. U. No. 110**

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God, in His Infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our dearly beloved Brother, Henry Cover; and

Whereas Local Union No. 110, I. B. E. W., has lost in the passing of Brother Cover one of its loyal and true members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 110, hereby expresses in its very humble way the sorrow and regret that Brother Cover's passing to the Great Beyond has caused all our Brothers to feel.

Resolved, That the condolences of this organization be extended to his family and his many friends.

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in the sincere respect and memory that we hold for our departed Brother Cover; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be recorded in our minutes, a copy be sent to the Journal for official publication, and a copy be sent to the family of our departed Brother.

GEORGE DEMPSEY,  
JOHN HOY,  
LAWRENCE DUFFY,  
Committee.

**Death Claims Paid January 1-31, 1934**

L. L.	Name	Amount
3	Max Huss	\$1,000.00
10	W. C. Hamil	1,000.00
309	H. B. Weber	1,000.00
I. O.	R. T. Brayton	1,000.00
574	C. W. Harman	1,000.00
17	F. L. Gerbrick	1,000.00
209	E. K. Schoonover	1,000.00
3	A. W. Dettengren	1,000.00
I. O.	E. J. Keefe	1,000.00
134	C. O. Johnson	1,000.00
309	C. N. Franklin	1,000.00
I. O.	W. B. Dodge	1,000.00
134	E. F. Holmes	1,000.00
41	E. Kaufman	1,000.00
212	H. Fitzpatrick	1,000.00
585	John Sykes	1,000.00
28	Wm. W. Welsh	1,000.00
354	F. J. Baker	1,000.00
I. O.	W. A. Post	1,000.00
3	S. J. Anderson	1,000.00
713	Wm. T. Hall	1,000.00
760	C. F. Shepard	1,000.00
817	Wm. O'Donnell	300.00

L. L.	Name	Amount
I. O.	Wm. J. Martin	650.00
I. O.	T. H. Houston	1,000.00
50	Al Brandt	1,000.00
18	E. B. Burrell	825.00
200	L. A. Swanson	300.00
200	J. A. Kelley	650.00
134	A. M. McCoy	1,000.00
134	J. M. Bailey	1,000.00
134	A. Bergstrom	1,000.00
595	W. H. Seed	1,000.00
I. O.	A. R. McGregor	1,000.00
245	C. Jennings	1,000.00
2	G. M. Smith	1,000.00
501	W. P. Hickey	1,000.00
I. O.	A. H. Lietz	1,000.00
263	G. W. Meggenberg	1,000.00
134	J. J. Bartuska	825.00
3	F. Holland	1,000.00
734	W. H. Powers	1,000.00
377	S. Yeaton	1,000.00

Claims paid January 1 to January 31, 1934	\$40,550.00
Claims previously paid	3,233,911.10
	\$3,274,461.10

**THE SCHOOL LUNCH**

(Continued from page 71)

bread or crackers, milk or cocoa, and a cookie or fruit for dessert.

Such hearty soups as bean soup, oatmeal and potato soup, mixed vegetable soup made with meat stock, cream soups of all kinds, and toothsome, thick chowders are on the recommended list.

Other dishes which may be almost a meal in themselves are Spanish rice, tomato rabbit, corn rabbit, or tomato, corn and cheese, creamed canned salmon, creamed vegetables, or creamed mixtures of vegetables and meat. These may be served on crackers, bread or toast. Creamed chipped beef is inexpensive and nourishing, as is creamed salmon. If an oven is available, many good baked or scalloped dishes may be made; but even if only top-stove cookery must be used, a good, filling, appetizing lunch may be provided at a minimum cost if those who are doing it are skillful and are interested in doing the job right.

**WOMAN'S WORK**

(Continued from page 70)

changes; improved and stronger administration of labor laws; and steps to make permanent improved labor conditions.

But Miss Perkins left out the most important requirement of the whole program and upon which the program must stand or fall—and that is complete union organization of all industry. Such a program could not even be started and could never be enforced without union labor's power behind it, and the more complete such organization becomes, the more effective and complete such a program would be. The root of all power for labor is organization.

Frequently a person who becomes sick will not admit that it is due to his own wrong habits of living and that he cannot hope for complete recovery until he changes these habits.

It is the same with wage-earners. Until they will recognize generally that organization is the real means to a more abundant life and work for organization above everything else, we are handicapped. We just have to struggle along using only a part of the strength we might possibly have.

There is only one way to pull ourselves out of the mire and that is by our united effort.

**GIRD TO TURN BACK FASCISM**

(Continued from page 63)

gaining and the right to organize. This is the finishing touch applied to the general position of Chancellor Hitler in reducing those who belonged to trade unions to a condition of servitude and in the complete destruction of the German trade union movement as initiated when the officers of the German trade unions were arrested and imprisoned, and funds confiscated and the offices raided.

**Vast Powers to Bosses**

"The new labor setup for the German workers provides for a system of shop councils which will function under the supervision of governmental labor trustees but which within minimum provisions will permit the employer to fix wages and working conditions himself although the workers may appeal to the state. It further provides that the employer shall serve as chairman of the shop council which shall be composed of 'elected nationally reliable employees more than 25 years old.' It further provides that the trustees may impose fines and prison terms and the court, much beyond that, may also depose a leader and discharge a follower.

"A mere reference to these dictatorial provisions is shocking to the sense of justice and a comprehension of the enjoyment of democratic rights and privileges held by American workers.

"The cruel treatment accorded the German workers as set forth in the code justifies the position taken by the American Federation of Labor when it declared in favor of a boycott of German manufactured goods and German service until the German government recognizes the right of the working people of Germany to organize into bona fide independent trade unions of their own choosing, and until Germany ceases its repressive policy of persecution of Jewish people.

"In addition to this definite action taken the American Federation of Labor voices its solemn protest against the inhuman treatment which has been imposed upon the working people of Germany."

**LOCAL SECRETARIES**

Here's a prize that will add interest and inject enthusiasm into your next organization campaign—every Brother wants one. A handsome finger ring in 14-karat green and white gold, with the I. B. E. W. "Lightning fist"—priced **\$10**



## LET'S GO DEEP INTO BARE NEUTRAL BUSINESS

(Continued from page 67)

American Bureau of Shipping 1930 rules state that "the Current Marine Rules of A. I. E. E. will be acceptable."

It might be of interest to note that the inquiries to which the above replies were made were brought about by the efforts to ascertain how much truth was contained in the statements broadcast in 1928 by propagandists for "bare neutral" in interior wiring that such practice was common and acceptable practice on both ordinary ships and battleships. In fact this type of wiring was dubbed "battleship wiring" by its proponents in their effort to give it unassailable standing.

### 5. As Applied to Trains

5. As to using metal of a railroad train as return for a one-way circuit, a. c. or d. c. Up to 1923, N. E. Code contained car wiring rules which governed that art. Since that time N. F. P. A. prepares and issues such rules through a separate committee and rule book. All these rules prohibit use of metal members of the car body as return conductors for one-way circuits, except for "auxiliary" circuits. In practice this is accepted; the main circuit wire is insulated up to the points where it is solidly grounded to the trucks. Practice as to control circuits, not so much for ordinary safety reasons, as for assuring reliability of control (and resulting safety), calls for such circuits, also, to be insulated on both sides.

### 6. Practice as Applied to Plumbing

6. As to using bare wire in metal conduit, which, of course, in turn, rests or may rest (constantly or intermittently) against plumbing, gas or other piping or other metal structures, within buildings, for either a. c. or d. c. circuits. This is, of course, one-way wiring with a partial return through undesignated, uncontrolled and unguarded channels.

This is a variation from the "concentric wire" method, the status of which in England and Germany has been referred to above. No such practice is reported in either country. The American rules and practices concerning such a method are somewhat as follows:

Rules always have prohibited this practice (N. E. Code and N. E. Safety Code). These standards permit for a. c. but one ground at a consumer's installation, and that outside the service switch. For d. c. no ground at consumer's installation is permitted. Both rules (for a. c. and d. c.) are intended and calculated to prevent current escape from designed, controlled and guarded channels ("appointed paths"). In practice such escape has been known to occur and to continue for some time (both a. c. and d. c.) by way of accidental faults in interior wiring (errors of electricians, abuses of repairers, abuses of other persons working near insufficiently guarded wiring, effects of time, atmosphere, vibrations or other deteriorating influences). Such breakdowns are rare and quickly removed in well-cared-for installations. Reference to experience in steel plants, oil refineries, etc., will show how good the records are.

Lately there has been some effort by proponents of "bare neutral" to show a large and presumably harmless condition

of accidental current escapes by accidental insulation breakdowns to conduit, etc., allowed to continue because of careless maintenance. Cases where "accidental" escapes were wilfully caused and classed as "accidental" have been reported. The true conditions thus need to be reviewed.

Inspectors in the thousands of jurisdictions call such escapes, defects, if and when discovered, and refuse clearance for energizing, or require de-energizing. They have not generally measured such escapes for amount of leakage or for possible damage, nor called attention of owners, etc., to possible damage; they have cleared the defect. When damage has occurred from this cause, its source has undoubtedly often been obscure or hard to prove. Outside of occasional injuries to plumbers, householders and cattle, the damages have heretofore been pretty much unrecorded as due to this cause. Closer inquiries may be expected in future. In the past certain interests have made efforts to suppress or gloss over records of all kinds of injuries from electricity as likely to scare the public away from using this service.

Promoters of a practice of "bare neutrals" or "concentric wiring" (or under some less descriptive term) have sometimes exaggerated the frequency and claimed harmlessness of such current escapes as noted. In some known cases these promoters (as noted above) have secretly or openly caused such escapes, contrary to standards and laws, and have subsequently claimed their harmlessness, in absence of any tests or records to indicate the true facts, taking no interest in making such tests, themselves.

#### Who Is To Be Responsible?

Gradual accumulation of instances where current escapes have been found to cause inconvenience or injury to workmen or users, injury to water potability, etc., joined with increasing engineering activity and inquiry by waterworks, plumbing and other affected associations, has at last called attention of many heretofore unconscious groups, to the amounts and seriousness of such existing accidental or induced current escapes to non-electrical facilities. Inquiry is being started into the responsibility of electrical groups—utility, contractor, manufacturer, inspector. An unwillingness of waterworks, plumbing and gas associations to accept a transfer of responsibility for escaped current is leading these groups to enter very active protest against those persons causing such current escapes or willing to cause them (including causing them by changing the rules now prohibiting them).

All these considerations have brought a present demand for real and disinterested information on the existing amount and frequency of these current escapes, the course of such current to and over and from piping, its effects in voltage, personal injury, property damage, transfer of operating and maintenance costs and responsibility.

#### Concerning Present Propaganda

Several large, organized movements against the existing rules which prohibit current escapes in interior wiring have been occurring over a period of years in America.

In 1915, certain utilities and at least one manufacturer, in announced efforts to promote "cheapness" of wiring, announced that they were endeavoring to introduce certain so-called "well-established, satisfactory" English and German wiring methods in the

United States. Forms of "concentric" wire were proposed, and brought before the electrical committee which prepared National Electrical Code. The commercial interests were then much less numerous represented on this electrical committee than now; utilities were far less powerful financially and less practiced in propaganda than during the passing Insull era. After several meetings of all electrical groups (but without engaging the attention of waterworks, plumbing and gas groups) it was concluded that the European practice of that day did not support these promoters, nor was the proposed wiring acceptable to the engineering judgment of the electrical committee.

Some 10 trial installations were made in one city in homes of Edison employees, using materials furnished by General Electric Company, but without recorded knowledge or permission of state or city authorities. After a lapse of 13 years but one installation was still in use (the employee still occupying the premises). It was all in the open, quite well guarded against personal contact and injury, and grounded, at one point only, near service, to water pipe (otherwise placed well away from all pipes and places such pipes would be likely to go later). The original installation had never been extended. No other city had such installations.

No one but one utility and one manufacturer supported or assisted this proposal.

Note that bare wires in conduit never even were mentioned in this movement, which was wholly for "cheap wiring" and went direct for its object, not planning a series of changes in the code to lead up to such an object by deceiving those concerned.

#### Utilities Renew Campaign

In 1928, a large group of utilities, grown financially aggressive and dominant, again undertook, but by new methods, to move against the long-continued existing code rules which permit no current escapes. These later efforts were of far different character from those of 1915. A number of lines of attack on existing rules and practices were followed. Widespread efforts were made to induce legal authorities to shut their eyes to violations of their laws (usually including N. E. Code as a minimum), and to permit two kinds of "bare neutrals"—(1) bare return wire in standard conduit, (2) bare sheath on concentric wire. The latter was the real aim and now (after five years' continuance of these efforts—see paper by J. D. Noyes given in 1933 before Association of Edison Illuminating Companies) is the sole method having the active attention of these utilities, who have underwritten perhaps \$60,000, plus much larger sales and committee expenses, have induced and paid one manufacturer (again General Electric Company) to make "concentric" materials in quantities for several hundred installations, have procured "permitted" violations of several ordinances and state laws (probably illegally permitted), in order to facilitate the desired "trial installations". They have made no tests to learn amounts and effects of current escapes, have not advised with water works, plumbing or gas groups concerned and affected. These groups had to find out for themselves what was going on, and their objections are now in process of being belittled, ignored and in some localities overridden.

Simultaneously, this utility group, having recently demanded and secured much augmented voting representation on the electrical committee (1928) have there sought



to secure removal of the long standing N. E. Code prohibition of current escapes at points within the main switch, and have not advised with waterworks, plumbing or gas groups on this national effort. These groups had to find out for themselves what was going on here, too. (See J. D. Noyes paper to see his ideas on altering representation on this committee so as almost wholly to place its control in the hands of commercial interests who would be dominated by the utilities.)

#### Campaign to Abrogate Laws

In fact several laws had already been violated before these affected groups knew what was going on, and a subcommittee to prepare changes in the code had already been brought about. Having now learned of these not too friendly nor too co-operative actions, these affected groups have now naturally begun entering their objections to (1) current escapes, (2) violations of law, (3) N. E. code changes without their own acceptance, (4) absence of tests, (5) apparent efforts to "railroad" into being a practice, and code changes deemed inimical to their integrity.

During these past five years, one city (only) has made several rather extended wiring installations, using "are neutrals" (return) wire in special well-bonded conduit, also several partial installations. Colored stories have been circulated about this practice, by proponents of "concentric" wiring, including improperly weighted cost comparisons (so-called) with standard wiring systems. The former city electrical inspector attempted to abrogate a state law and city ordinance in permitting this practice (indeed, he endeavored to compel such usage) and described his purpose as "being to secure a single wiring method (for simplification and safety), the best method (conduit), and to reduce cost of this single method so that all interests would agree upon it." The cost reductions stressed by him were in saving the covering of one wire and sometimes in reducing conduit size.

#### Cities Repair Mistakes

In this city after some two years of "illegal" wiring the building commissioner required all subsequently made installations to conform to law; the former electrical inspector was dismissed. Tests are contemplated of remaining one-way wiring installations. Some have been altered to conform to the law.

During the incumbency of the former city inspector, certain utilities arranged and paid for visits to this inspector by groups of inspectors in other cities. In some of these cases they later secured from such inspectors so-called "permissions" to install "concentric wiring", on the basis of its no more allowing current escape than did the "bare neutral in conduit" wiring. These "permissions" of course involved violations of law. No tests have been made in any of these other cities so far as inquiries can find.

Evansville, Ind., is the first city named. Others having "concentric" wiring are Detroit, Cleveland, Boston, Baltimore and Hartford. Still others have resisted strong urging to abrogate law.

One city, under urging by a college professor at the time doing research work for National Electric Light Association (now the "Edison Electric Institute"), has permitted for "trial", one or more "bare neutral" installations (1929-30) consisting of rigid conduit whose joints are either engaged threads or specially developed copper bonding links. No wire return is em-

ployed in this one-way wiring, the professor believing he had "invented" something new, that when you once "bare" a wire, you might as well depend on one bare return (conduit) as have two (wire plus conduit). His plan would save cost of one wire and in many cases size of conduit. Cost of securing against accidental discontinuity ran high in first cost, however, and danger of discontinuity always exists, while current escape depends only on what comes near to the conduit, the amount of dampness, etc. No one else has adopted this "invention", nor has the professor recurred to it. Inquiry of the State Industrial Commission, Madison, Wis., will elicit information on the status of this "trial" installation, and as to who has assumed legal responsibility for life and property involved in such a violation of law.

#### Pressure Tactics Used

In an effort to promote illegal "trials" of one-way wiring systems considerable pressure and threat is reported to have been brought on many individuals and groups, principally on individual city inspectors, boards of fire underwriters and members of committees considering the subject. The nature of this pressure can only be touched on. In the case of city inspectors it took the form of assigning "watchers" from the utility group, who, according to reported statements of utility men, would "take care" of anyone who "opposed the bare neutral". In the case of boards of fire underwriters it took the form of statements that large lines of insurance, listed by utility groups, would be withdrawn, if boards of fire underwriters or their inspectors, in the field or in electrical committee, opposed "bare neutrals". Nor did such pressure end with threats. Jobs have been taken away, demotions have been made.

#### Politics Runs High

In effort to secure changes in the National Electrical Code rules which prevent one-way wiring with scattered return of escaped (vagrant) current, the "going" character and number of "trial" installations is stressed by proponents, and it is asserted that they "have no trouble". A presumably expert engineering ("technical") committee is now engaged, presumably, in getting the facts and unbiased judgments of "technical experts" together, for the guidance of the electrical committee as a whole. On this sits the chairman, F. V. Magalhaes, who is listed as representative of American Institute of Electrical Engineers, but who in private life is in employ of General Electric Company which has made thousands of dollars' worth of "concentric" materials and which now has several men very active in promoting the wiring methods in question. It is generally, though informally, stated by members of this "technical" committee that in no committee, even the electrical committee itself, is it more evident, that all actions and voting are by direction of the organizations from whose membership on electrical committee this "technical" committee was chosen. They are "under order".

On this committee, with but one vote out of nine, sits a representative of the waterworks group. He had to ask for opportunity to sit in at meetings and receive correspondence. A similar request is understood to have been made by representatives of sanitary engineering groups, although not yet permitted to participate. Both waterworks and sanitary groups have filed resolutions protesting the committee's current efforts to hasten through changes in

code rules to permit a practice deemed inimical to them, an invasion of the integrity of plumbing, etc.

It is to be noted that while talked about and used as an entering wedge by proponents of "bare neutral" the conduit type is not being urged, but all efforts are being directed and much money spent in endeavor to put "concentric" over. "Concentric", however, is not now the favored term of proponents. "Uninsulated return" seems the currently favored expression, but by whatever name "it is concentric just the same". The conduit type of bare neutral has all the appearance of the proverbial "herring drawn across the trail."

When cheapness is wanted, bare neutral in conduit is not cheap. When goodness (ruggedness, integrity and absence of hazard to persons and property) is wanted, bare wire in conduit is not good.

### 7. Present Encroachments

7. Bare wire in conduit, except for the one city artificially handled, has now in the United States only one other usage. Those who wished to establish such a method requested and secured in National Electrical Code and in a number of cities thereafter, the permissive barring of the (true) neutral in service conduit (ahead of main switch). This was granted with some reluctance by those electrical committee members who apprehended argument for extension of the practice within the main switch and for extension of bare neutral in service wires to cable (as well as conduit). These apprehensions were justified, and this year the code has been made to allow bare neutral cable services, while the pressure to extend bare wires of both conduit and cable kinds to the interior installation is unremitting. To show that this piecemeal insertion of "bare neutral" into the code is not a mere happening, read J. D. Noyes paper, above referred to.

Of course, a bare wire outside service switch can always be removed if "objectionable." And the code now requires that any ground connection which is "objectionable" be removed. And such a bare wire is, of course, such a ground. And the "objectionability" is now being declared by those responsible for continued integrity of piping systems in buildings, etc., who are coming to realize the threatened invasion of these paths by electric currents escaping from their "appointed channels." But, once "bare neutral" is generally used in side service switch, it becomes irremovable, however "objectionable," except at great cost.

### 8. Good or Bad?

8. (a) One might well ask what are the good features of bare wires in conduit, and what are the bad features? One might readily say, "There must be good features or no acceptance at all would have been secured." Such an inquiry deserves a frank answer. And it must be remembered also that unthinking, imitative or biased persons will emphasize and over-emphasize good points and will call some points good ones which are really bad ones. So a measured discussion and appraisal is helpful in securing the straight thinking so much needed.

(1) Good features of bare wire in conduit. It saves cost of an insulation covering on one wire, and is less likely to be accidentally reversed (used for other side of circuit) than is a covered wire. It is true the reversal will occur only with gross carelessness or design, but let us call this a good point. It sometimes (once out of several combinations of wires) permits use of



a smaller size of conduit. It is true that using such smaller sizes, in new work, is often false economy, because change to more or larger covered wire is quite likely to be needed in early future.

It means less likelihood (where secondary is poorly grounded) of loss of grounding protection. It is true that this assurance is provided at expense and risk of interior plumbing, gas and other piping and metal, not designed to carry currents safely.

(2) Good features of bare wire in concentric wiring. The first and last advantages under (1) above apply. The second is not a factor, but it is true that a concentric wire may occupy somewhat less space than two parallel wires, and that a concentric wire whose outer wire is uncovered will occupy less space than if there is a covering. However, the bare wire protection against abrasion, etc., may (and does) take up much of the space that an insulating covering (of some mechanical toughness) would occupy.

(3) Bad features of bare wire in conduit. It removes the "separateness" of the "appointed channels" for that "dangerous agent" electricity, which has thus far permitted the electrical codes and laws to be prepared and applied by electrical agencies, alone (other agencies confiding in the intent and ability of electrical agencies to keep electrical currents in these "appointed channels"). By removing this "separateness" it invites (compels) attention and participation in electrical codes and laws and their application, by the affected owners and responsible agencies for other facilities—water, gas, sewerage, etc. This removal of "separateness" tends toward allowing (causing) voltages to appear on conduits, piping, building metal, adjacent metal objects, persons—all of which would not otherwise occur, and which may cause injury of varying kind and amount. This also tends toward allowing (causing) current to appear on, along or away from such objects, which may also cause such injuries. Both voltage and current injuries may include the cost and inconvenience of greater care and caution, slowness, nervousness of workers, owners and occupants of premises about such objects—particularly workmen on such objects (plumbers, waterworks employees, gasfitters, etc.). This removal of "separateness", by one-way wiring, opens up (compels) attention to the legal question of private ownership (its rights), when subtle, unannounced, invisible agencies such as electricity are accumulated by one party or a series of parties, and are then imposed as a problem (of danger, cost and inconvenience) upon other and private parties.

#### Several Questions Must Be Answered

Is a private building owner or occupant, or one who sells non-electrical products or assembles and installs them for this owner or occupant, under the legal necessity of providing his own protection against artificial and subtle dangers like current escapes (and at his own cost)? Or does this legal obligation continue to rest with the originator of current, whether he himself does the wiring contrary to a proper rule, or whether he "engineers" to secure a change in the rule in expectation that this may remove or lessen the charge of negligence against him?

To what extent would an improper change from a safe rule to an unsafe one, or a change from a rule obviously placing responsibility for preventing current escapes on those responsible for making and serving the electrical installation—to a rule allowing such escape and apparently thus removing responsibility—really operate to place legal

responsibility on N. F. P. A., Electrical Committee (and the whole series of persons and commercial agencies concerned in securing such rule changes)?

The above are some of the questions involved and now engaging attention of those who demand, and those who might accede to, code changes.

(b) As to injuries, property damage, etc., which may have been caused by bare wire in conduit (or may not have been so caused, or may have been thus avoided), there is no separate record. Slowly accumulating property damage requires careful, even expensive, tests. None have been made. Any damage requires careful inquiry because the cause, course, nature of damage, are all so subtle in their beginnings. It is not like a blown fuse—an overloaded wire. Some advocates of this code change and practice have openly stated that they relied on this difficulty to locate and prove, as one aid toward establishing the method before occurring damage (if any) could be traced to this cause. (Note, in this connection, how difficult and long fought was the "pinning down" of the cause and blame for electrolytic damage to water mains.)

But injuries due to other escapes of current, to appearances of voltages and currents at points and on facilities undesignated to handle them safely, are on record in sufficient number to be useful to the careful and unindoctrinated investigator. Still, to relate these injuries to such as must surely be occurring and due to occur with currents of similar amounts from "bare wire" or one-way circuits in conduit or "concentric," requires judgment, balance, avoidance of overclaims as well as underclaims. Such one-way wiring, as above brought out, is thus far—in very small amounts—of very small age. Qualitative analysis must supply the guidance for thoughtful persons. In Evansville, Ind., with a few hundreds of complete or partial installations, considerable corrosion at points where bare wire can be seen, leads to expectation of more at unseen points. Some visible injury to wire insulation by adjacent uncovered wires is noted. Tests of a searching nature are yet to be made, and tests and wire withdrawals cost money. And these jobs were done with unusual care to avoid discontinuities and so reduce and delay current escapes. These jobs are not fair samples. They cost more than the same jobs by standard methods. Effects of water potability, suspected in a few cases, are to be verified or otherwise by tests being planned.

The concentric wiring installations now in the United States, less than 1,000 in number, almost wholly in residences, are likewise installed with unusual care and show no savings over standard methods. No tests to locate damage, to note deterioration, or even to measure current escape have occurred. The jobs are very new, one to two years at most. If injuries of any kind have already occurred, there is no record as yet. Tests are yet to be made. The promoters have been rather interested in displaying numbers of installations than in proving harmlessness of the current escapes. Such watching as has been done has been done by advocates—by those violating present standards and laws, and by inspectors already in the position of having illegally permitted these violations—not much interest in finding injuries.

Of course, when discontinuities occur, the condition will be that of the "live" conduit, "live" equipment frames, "live" water pipes, etc., which have, by record, caused many personal injuries, deaths, fires and property damages. The history is large, records numerous, easily obtainable from state and city authorities.

Even without discontinuity, these dangerous conditions may also exist, as to either current escapes or injuries, when escape paths have short sections of high resistance. With some thousands of millions of feet of armored cable in use, even without discontinuities, and even with armor not normally carrying current, there are fairly numerous instances of accidental current along sheaths overheating the armor, starting blazes, overheating gas pipes and empty plumbing connections to which such accidentally escaping current has "strayed". Without discontinuities, the d.c. electrolysis in street mains, in customer service pipes, etc., has of course been a large source of damage, has even caused water failures at fires and entailed gas explosions.

### 9. Need For Investigation

9. The foregoing discussion is not short. Yet it is not conclusive, not an investigation. It is rather an outline of the need for an investigation, with a few beacon lights on points demanding light. Investigation will be costly. A short study of the record of the Peoria electrolysis case will indicate how costly and how necessary is a real investigation when someone proposes to allow current escapes and expects someone else to become responsible for effects of these "vagrant" currents.

In conclusion it may be suggested that before either the electrical industry, other industries or the public, accepts the practice of "bare neutrals", "concentric wiring" or other varieties of this "uninsulated wire system"—this one-way wiring—there must be tests on a wide scale of several kinds:

(a) Tests of a technical character, on amounts and locations of current flow, voltages, effects—over periods of time, under varying surrounding conditions.

(b) Tests of a legal character, on absolute and relative rights, duties, and obligations.

Both these kinds of tests appear to be coming shortly, if one or both of the following events do not occur to make such tests unnecessary:

(a) Withdrawal of proposals and pressure for one-way wiring within buildings (as withdrawal was made in 1915 in this country, and gradually in other countries, in marine wiring, etc.).

(b) Acceptance by those promoting such a practice and pressing for it in committees—of definite legal responsibility for its effects and for insurance against such ill effects—such responsibility to be properly and definitely allocated among—

- (1) Committees preparing rules,
- (2) Bodies adopting rules,
- (3) Bodies applying rules,
- (4) Bodies making one-way wiring materials,
- (5) Bodies making such installations,
- (6) Bodies supplying current to such installations.

### 10. Need For a New Deal

10. In order that our members may have available any results of investigations which may be made into the merits of one-way wiring, and into the effects from its use, we shall continue to make inquiries and shall also keep confidential the source of any information supplied us, unless the source of information is clearly well known. While regretting that it is necessary to announce this policy of keeping sources of information confidential, this is forced upon us by the widespread conditions of pressure, threats and fear which we have found to exist as a result of actions taken by promoters of one-way wiring—suppressing the freedom of individual engi-



neering judgment (liberty) to a serious extent, stacking the cards so patently that the need for a "new deal" becomes evident.

In a future article we may find it useful to discuss in some detail some of the ways and even some of the instances in which this pressure, threat and fear condition has been arrived at. Perhaps open engineering will in the end prove better than attempting acquiescence in such matters as one-way wiring.

## GOOD HOUSING IS A MATTER OF GOOD INCOME

(Continued from page 60)

going to pay the landlord at the end of the month.

### High Rents in Washington

Among groups earning from \$1,500 to \$2,000, primarily the clerical group and the administrative group, we find that 26½ per cent was going for rent in the city of Washington; 73½ cents out of every dollar was left over after rent was paid for other costs of living.

Now, looking at that situation and seeing how much it costs the average wage earner to live in any sort of housing (and certainly none of us can be proud of the type of housing we have been furnishing either laborers or government employees either in Washington or elsewhere), the question arises as to what we can do with this money that the average wage earner has available from his income to pay rents. I am not dealing with 1932 and I am not dealing with 1933. I am dealing with what the average wage earner earned at the peak of prosperity.

Earning \$1,400 a year on the average, or \$117 a month, and allowing 20 per cent for rent, as I mentioned above, he was paying \$23.50 per month for rent. The question arises: What can we furnish for \$23.50 per month, or, better still, what could we have furnished in 1929 for \$23.50 a month? In terms of 1933, we have got to ask the question, What can we furnish him for \$16?—because \$16 is all he has available for his rent.

### Only Three Rooms Available

On the basis of 1929 earnings of \$23.50 a month for rent, which is available, at \$10 a room we could have furnished approximately two and three-fifths room for the average wage-earning family. At \$8 cost per room we could have furnished three rooms, and at \$6 per room we could have furnished three and eight-tenths rooms.

Now the problem is, Can we furnish decent housing at \$6 per room? If we can, we take care of the average wage earner. You cannot take care of the submarginal wage earner whose income is below the \$1,400 level. If we are going to take care of those who are receiving less than \$1,400, we have got to furnish rooms at less than \$6 per room. I am assuming approximately three and a fraction rooms per family. I personally doubt whether you can furnish decent housing, with modern sanitary conveniences, with plenty of light, for \$6 per room. At least we can't do it with the conditions as they are right now. It is quite possible that with new developments of technique of building and with other problems of construction solved, we may be able to do that, but even if we do get down to \$6 per room, all that we will be furnishing

the average wage earner's family on the basis of \$23.50 per room, which is the average that he should spend on his rent, will be a little more than three rooms per family.

### Governmental Subsidy Necessary

The question arises then, if we can't give rooms at \$6 apiece per month, what are we going to do about it? I think there is only one answer: We have got to make up our minds once and for all that decent housing, under present conditions at least, requires very definite governmental subsidy. We must look upon housing as we have looked upon health facilities, recreational facilities and other activities where the government has felt that the service must be rendered at a price below the actual cost to society as a whole.

How are we to do that? I personally see two ways. First, definitely and clearly commit ourselves to municipal housing, at a loss, if necessary. We have got to make up our minds that if we go in for municipal housing we cannot expect all of these properties which are to be created for low income groups to pay their complete operating expenses and overhead. We cannot do that if we are going to furnish these apartments and flats at a rental within the means of the average wage earner.

Second, in addition to public housing on a municipal basis, I believe it will be absolutely essential that we continue for the present at least and perhaps add to such subsidies as we have arranged to give to private housing. That can be done, first, by lowering rents; second, by eliminating taxation on such properties and, third, by the present method of giving actual grants.

In any event, I think we have got to make up our minds that with building in its present technological state, the day when housing for workers—and I am talking about housing that is decent, at a price within the income paying ability of the worker—the day when housing can be furnished at that price and at the same time net a return to the private investor equal to what other investments in private industry have yielded is past, at least until we have found some other way of providing housing.

[This is the full text of the address given by Dr. Lubin before the National Public Housing Conference.]

## FEDERAL HOUSING PROGRAM TO GO ON

(Continued from page 61)

The Lavanburg Foundation.  
The U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
NRA Consumers' Advisory Board.  
The Brooklyn Committee on Better Housing.  
Allied Architects of Washington.  
Public Works Administration.  
Land Utilization Committee, New York Building Congress.  
Federal Council of Churches.  
Pittsburgh Housing Association.  
National Federation of Settlements.  
International Labor Organization.  
Detroit City Plan Commission.  
The Illinois State Housing Commission.

The Building Trades Department, American Federation of Labor.

Washington Committee on Housing and others.

Among the important addresses given at this conference was one by Dr. Lubin, U. S.

Commissioner of Labor Statistics. His address in full is published in this issue of the ELECTRICAL WORKERS JOURNAL. Miss Grace Abbott, head of the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, stressed vigorously the social side of housing and showed how the death rate for children varied to the number inhabiting any given room.

The following resolution was passed:

"1. As an immediate and permanent policy, we urge the creation of public housing authorities in states having the necessary enabling legislation, and the passage of such legislation in other states which are now without it.

"2. In states where public authorities do not now exist or cannot immediately be legally created, we urge that demonstrations be started at once by the Public Works Emergency Housing Corporation as the most effective means of educating in the possibilities of slum clearance and decent low-cost housing for wage-earners, and as an important aid to solving the unemployment problem.

"3. That we are in hearty sympathy with President Roosevelt's statement to a committee of this conference this afternoon, that the most effective step in the housing program for the immediate future is to make the dirt fly on sound demonstrations.

"4. We are convinced that this action will do more than anything else to assure the future of public housing and to secure increased appropriations from federal and other governmental funds. If the money already appropriated is wisely and speedily spent, additional appropriations will certainly be forthcoming.

"5. The members of this conference pledge themselves vigorously to initiate in their own communities such action as may be necessary to achieve the objectives set forth above."

## RADIO MEN STIR AS CODE BLASTS JUSTICE

(Continued from page 64)

number of places. I know, too, that so far as the program is concerned, the operator is just as important as the artist who is doing the entertaining.

"I want to change jobs just as soon as I can, but you know that it is hard to make any kind of a connection now. I have seen too much of what I call underhand work here to feel like staying any longer than until I can find another job.

"Please let me hear from you concerning the latest efforts of the federation. Also remind Mr. McLean, about my interest in the union again if you will. Be sure to keep all I have said in confidence unless you know of another job that I can get in a day or two. Thanking you again for the information you gave me before and hoping to hear from you again very soon, I am

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) -----

## In Behalf of Amusement

In order that our locals giving progressive bridge parties may have appropriate and decorative equipment, we have secured card decks bearing the Brotherhood's seal, and the union label. These can be had at 75c a pack.



## DISAPPROVAL OF NRA SWELLS TO DIN

(Continued from page 53)

**John F. Kent, LL.B., LL.M., ex-President of Local 60, Member of the New York Bar, in the Plasterer, December, 1933**

Under the NRA each industry is to work out its own salvation through its own code of fair practice. With all this in mind, and with the knowledge that plastering is a local industry, it follows that a national code of fair practice must provide for the fullest possible measure of local control. Each locality must rely on itself to deal with its own problems. As an illustration consider these facts. At this time a few builders in this city who have signed the blanket code are violating that code in a flagrant manner, at least in so far as the plastering is concerned. There is no local set-up to deal with the situation. To be effective, action must be taken in most cases at the time the violation becomes apparent. If New York had an enforcement set-up, this unfair competition could be stamped out overnight. Local plastering industry would take a vital interest in seeing that the code was lived up to. The longer the delay in obtaining a local set-up, the greater the feeling of doubt in the minds of men, which will destroy the faith of labor in the NRA, and the more confident and dangerous will its enemies become. A fight is on, and to date we have no weapons to fight with. The plastering industry in New York must have an enforcement organization as the long-needed weapon. Apparently labor must be the leader in this move. No one else seems interested enough.

## American Photo Engraver, January, 1934

There is plenty about which to protest. Gen. Johnson has paid high tribute to labor for its support of NRA. Labor HAS supported NRA and it does so today. Labor has supported, while too many employers have chiseled. Perhaps labor may have to do less supporting and a little more fighting. Gen. Johnson, like many others, often yields to the indomitable spirit of fighters where he will balk against the reasoned arguments of men who practice only the arts of peaceful and argumentative persuasion.

Many labor leaders said at the outset that labor will get under NRA only what it is strong enough to take. Labor today is strong enough to take a good deal more than it is getting.

## Charles W. Ervin in American Guardian, January 5, 1934

The spirit and intent of the National Industrial Recovery Act and the codes are being frustrated, openly and in secret.

The codes are generally being violated, ignored, and evaded.

The intent to raise wages is being defeated.

The speed-up—in attempts to get around code restrictions—is being used to get the most for the least from workers.

The fear that any wage set as a minimum would become instead a maximum was well founded, for that is exactly what is happening.

The provisions for collective bargaining and for independent organization—as opposed to company unions—are for the most part either ignored or quietly hamstrung.

Labor has little strength or influence in enforcement and its representatives are frequently compromised with the employer class.

The worker's early confidence in Roosevelt and the New Deal has been smashed and he is now afraid of the NRA and regards it as a threat to his freedom and his welfare.

Local compliance boards and NRA officials are lax and ineffectual and are either afraid of the employer or are entirely in sympathy with the desire for outright business control.

At rare intervals cases of honest observance of spirit and letter of the codes may be found. Such instances would appear to be the exception.

Any supposition that business intends to "govern itself" in the spirit of the New Deal is preposterous. The profit motive is still solidly in the saddle.

## Bricklayer, Mason and Plasterer, January, 1934

What fate lies in store for our code cannot be known. It may emerge as bad as it was when it left Gen. Johnson's hands. But if that is the case our organization must still fight on. It must be remembered that there is the chance for remedy in joint agreements. Collective bargaining is above and beyond the code and the terms arrived at in collective bargaining take precedence over the terms of codes. That is the paramount reason at this time for every possible effort to strengthen organization. Where NRA fails the union must step in and battle out the issues along the age-old lines.

## A PLAN TO SUPPLEMENT PROFIT SYSTEM

(Continued from page 54)

ness to its consequences. Congressional investigations have revealed that bankers, industrialists, and officials of insurance companies were increasing their salaries at the same time that they were advocating reductions in wages as a means of aiding recovery. These salaries ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000, already inflated beyond anything representing the value of services rendered, were added to by fees for serving as directors of many corporations. Inside information possessed by directors is used to their own advantage in speculating in the securities of the companies of which they are trustees.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation has found it necessary to limit salaries in concerns to which it grants loans. Stockholders in various corporations have found it necessary to take legal action to limit salaries and bonuses. It is necessary to establish minimum wages in order to stop wage cutting and to set up administrative machinery to see that minimum wages are paid. The game of cutting wages in order to gain competitive advantage by reducing prices is so deeply entrenched that it is questionable whether minimum wages can be enforced. In spite of the well-known evils of the profit making system most economists, as well as business men, insist that the profit system must be saved even if it is inconsistent with economic planning which aims at co-ordination of production and consumption.

Preoccupation with the pros and cons of NRA seems to have dulled the sensibilities even of economists and other non-business groups to the enormity of keeping 10,000,000 unemployed workers and their dependents on the verge of starvation while the debate rages. Few persons emphasize the fact that an emergency exists which is comparable to the emergency of war. If these same workers were under arms and needed supplies to maintain a war front, rights of private property and profit making would be subordinated in the interest of national welfare.

## A Neglected Section of NIRA

Action is needed commensurate with the problem at hand. Little or no attention has been paid to the fact that the Emergency Relief Act, approved May 12, 1933, provides for "aid in assisting co-operative and self-help associations for the barter of goods and services." This opens the way to the use of idle productive facilities to supply the needs of the jobless. The emergency warrants the use of idle plants for this purpose. If we insist that the profit making system must be perpetuated, let it operate among those who still find opportunity to do business under it. Business men who have orders for their goods at profitable prices and workers who have jobs which give them a living should be glad to be relieved of the burden of supporting those who have no business or no jobs.

Those who have idle plants and are losing money should welcome an offer from the government to pay a small return on the investment on condition that the government shall be allowed to take over their plants and operate them with the unemployed. Those who are doing business at a profit should have no complaint because the unemployed are not in the market for goods. Those who have jobs could well afford to pay a small tax toward the creation of a fund which will supply working capital for the plants which are used to supply the needs of the unemployed. The establishment alongside the profit making system of a productive system used to supply the needs of the unemployed would be one of the best forms of unemployment



insurance. Any time a worker in the profit making system lost his job he could turn to the non-profit system. Those who are making a profit also could afford to pay a tax for this purpose. Doubtless it would be less than a tax necessary to support people in idleness.

#### Interaction of Two Systems

A productive system devoted to the needs of the unemployed would make some demands on the profit making system for raw materials and other commodities. With the pick up of business in the profit making system an increasing number of the workers in the non-profit system could find work in the profit system. Plants in the non-profit system could be turned back to their owners whenever the owners found an opportunity to do business at a profit.

Technological improvements which displace labor, maladjustments in the distribution of income, and failure to co-ordinate production and consumption will perpetuate—as long as the profit system exists—the need for a non-profit system in which the unemployed may supply their needs. The profit system under the NRA is already giving evidence that prices and profits are increasing faster than wages and employment. There is every indication that profit makers will be unwilling or unable to put all the unemployed at work on shorter hours and higher wages which will provide a decent standard of living. The profit system will not be devoted primarily to providing an increasingly better standard of living. As always in the past, if a better standard of living results, it will be incidental to the game of money getting.

If we are not willing to dispense with the profit system, we should at least provide facilities for the unemployed to supply their needs. If the NRA is a justifiable use of the power of the government to meet emergencies and provide welfare it should not stop short in the use of that power with the result that little or no improvement is made. The economic system exists to supply the needs of the population on an increasing scale. To allow a system of private property and profit making to vitiate the main purpose of the whole economic system is to perpetuate something which will become an increasing enormity as times goes on.

Judged by the degree to which the United States, the wealthiest nation in the world, is meeting the needs of the population, it is a pitiful exhibit of incompetent management. This statement holds true although industrial management in the United States is admittedly among the best in modern nations. It holds true although efforts are being made under NRA to improve conditions. No intelligent direction of the economic system will permit millions of people to want because of failure to balance production and consumption. It will not permit city people to starve while the farmers have surpluses to feed them. It will not permit farmers to lack manufactured goods because they cannot get

enough for agricultural products to pay for them. It will not tolerate the investment of billions of dollars in improved machinery which is left to rust unused because the masses have no work and no purchasing power to buy the products of the machines. In short the principle of the NRA must be expanded to cope with the realities of an economic system based on division of labor but dependent upon co-ordinated production and consumption. If private industry will not put people to work and pay them enough to live on then the government should use idle equipment for that purpose.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT VIEWED AS NOTABLE

(Continued from page 65)

be competing in the market for the relatively few jobs. There is a problem here which must be met and solved by making systematic and dignified old-age provision in the states which have not already adopted such forward-looking legislation. Federal assistance in this field would not be inappropriate if needed.

**9. Conference Methods.**—The conference method of approach to decide on policies, to study the result of surveys, and to make plans for the future should be adopted more and more in the field of this department.

Practically all of the recommendations made in March are in effect today. Many of them, however, are on a temporary emergency basis. Conscientious reconsideration of each of them leads me to the sober conclusion that most of these reforms are of basic importance in our national industrial and economic life and must be made permanent in some way compatible with democratic procedure. This is particularly true of six of the above recommendations, and I confidently expect to see the following made permanent:

1. Shorter hours throughout industry and trade.

2. Higher standard of wages, and particularly, a machinery for regulating the minimum levels of wages.

3. The permanent abolition of child labor.

4. The use of the government purchasing power for supplies and equipment to maintain high industrial standards.

5. Boards for hearing locally and investigating and making findings on all complaints of industrial practices and in cases of industrial disputes.

6. The general recognition of the desirability of competent wage-earners' representation, selected through organization, in all matters affecting industry, labor conditions, and civic development.

The Department of Labor has a large share of responsibility in informing the nation of the needs of our 40,000,000 individual wage earners. Not only must it make employers aware of the necessity of providing fully and equitably for the wage earners, but it must assist the wage earners in analyzing problems and

must aid in their solution. The problems are all fraught with a great public interest and affect the general welfare.

To help us carry out this purpose there is need for a Division of Labor Standards and Service, to study specific and local problems and make recommendations of industrial sanitation, health and safety, security, wages, working hours, housing, adult and vocational education, community opportunity, and many other factors which bear upon the lives of our workers. Wage earners, employers, and state and federal government agencies should be acquainted with the results of such investigations in the most direct and practical way, and there should be available for the wage-earning population an information service to which the country's workers may turn for aid and advice in dealing with the issues which confront them in their daily relation to their jobs, exactly as the farmers turn to the Department of Agriculture. With such a service, wage earners can obtain information on prices and standards of living which will give them a measure and a judgment on their living costs. Reliable data on wages, industrial and business activity, and conditions of the industry can be made available for them when they are considering possible changes in their agreements and standards and the NRA codes. Bankers and business men obtain all such information before they embark on serious enterprises, and wage earners become increasingly constructive when acting in the protection of their own interests, if they have available from impartial sources this type of information.

These recommendations are all involved in the work activities of the Department of Labor at present.

FRANCES PERKINS,  
Secretary.

#### ANSWERING THE QUERY "WHO GETS WHAT?"

(Continued from page 55)

##### Income Paid Out, by Industrial Divisions

	(Millions of dollars)			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Agriculture	6,341	5,707	4,500	3,442
Mining	2,123	1,776	1,285	851
Electric Light and Power and Gas	1,306	1,503	1,461	1,216
Manufacturing	18,157	16,141	12,488	8,373
Construction	3,135	2,825	1,896	864
Transportation	6,657	6,199	5,233	4,021
Communications	915	950	897	808
Trade	11,238	10,424	9,103	7,326
Finance	9,778	9,038	7,761	6,019
Government	6,459	6,764	6,793	6,794
Service	8,643	8,198	6,959	5,434
Miscellaneous	6,288	5,913	4,913	3,804
Total	81,040	75,438	63,289	48,952
	Percentages of 1929			
	1929	1930	1931	1932
Agriculture	100.0	90.0	71.0	54.3
Mining	100.0	83.6	60.5	40.1
Electric Light	100.0	115.1	111.9	93.1
Manufacturing	100.0	88.9	68.8	46.1
Construction	100.0	90.1	60.5	27.6
Transportation	100.0	93.1	78.6	60.4
Communications	100.0	103.8	98.0	88.3
Trade	100.0	92.8	81.0	65.2
Finance	100.0	92.4	79.4	61.6
Government	100.0	104.7	105.2	105.2
Service	100.0	94.9	80.5	62.9
Miscellaneous	100.0	94.0	78.1	60.5
Total	100.0	93.1	78.1	60.4

Subject to minor corrections.



### NRA—OLD-FASHIONED AS TO LABOR RELATIONS

(Continued from page 52)

planning, including price and production control, and the adoption of such a constructive procedure by the National Recovery Act as I have already suggested.

"I hope the National Recovery Administration, therefore, will act on its own initiative, in accordance with the general powers it possesses and thus render unnecessary recourse to more explicit legislation by labor or other interested parties. Organized labor hopes that it will act quickly."

### BULLETIN OF THE I. B. E. W. RADIO DIVISION

(Continued from page 72)

Cincinnati now has an active Radio Division of the local branch of the I. B. E. W. International Representative Thomas R. McLean has done some fine work in Cleveland and when we last heard from him he was headed for Fort Wayne and St. Louis. San Diego and Oakland, Calif., have been active and Portland, Oreg., is also reporting some progress. The radio technicians of greater Boston have recently held two meetings with I. B. E. W. officials there and among many others we have received inquiries from Windsor, Ont. A letter from San Antonio, Texas, reads in part: "At a formal meeting which convened at local labor temple on January 19, 1934, with Vice President Ingram of the I. B. E. W., presiding and with 22 San Antonio radio technicians present for the express purpose of discussing organization, 20 membership applications were signed for entrance to Radio Division of San Antonio I. B. E. W. Local. All of us have realized to what extent the I. B. E. W. represented the radio operating fraternity at the NAB-NRA-IBEW code hearing in Washington. Hence, we all feel duly obligated to support those who supported us, and further, we sincerely trust and hope that the radio operating fraternity of the United States at large will continue to give further and continued support to the I. B. E. W."

### CHANCES FOR CO-OPERATION THOUGHT FAVORABLE

(Continued from page 59)

men and employers to study data, adjust policies and create objectives for the entire industry. This policy-making body will have an impartial chairman appointed by the President of the United States. Regional bodies modeled after the parent policy making group will be composed of equal numbers of workers and employers without impartial chairmen.

The electrical contracting code arose in its final form after many hours of midnight controversy. Many large and important employers who had had profitable and pacific relations with the local unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers threw off their

differences on the code question, entered the fray, and soon brought about a state where the traditional co-operative habits as between the union and the employers continued. The result was the code which, though not ideal, still may be considered one that took into consideration the prestige, influence and competency of the union. The electrical contracting code gives autonomy to the electrical contracting industry; it keeps the utilities and the telephone industries from unfairly invading the electrical contracting field; it sets up a minimum wage for skilled workers, which is an unusual concession considering the opposition on the part of reactionaries to this provision; it also, it is bared, breaks the way for continued co-operative relations in that important division.

The first performance of the "Messiah" took place in the Neale's Music Hall in Dublin, on April 18, 1742, at midday, and, apropos of the absurdities of fashion, it may be noted that the announcements contained the following request: "Ladies who honor this performance with their presence will be pleased to come without hoops, as it will greatly increase the charity by making room for more company."

The work was gloriously successful, and over £400 were obtained the first day for the Dublin charities. Handel seems always to have had a special feeling with regard to this masterpiece of his—as if it were too

sacred to be merely used for making money, like his other works. \* \* \* In this connection a fine saying of his may be repeated. Lord Kinnoul had complimented him on the noble "entertainment" which by the "Messiah" he had lately given the town.

"My lord," said Handel, "I should be sorry if I only entertained them—I wish to make them better."

And when some one questioned him on his feelings when composing the Hallelujah Chorus, he replied in his peculiar English, "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself."

What a fine saying that was of poor old George III, in describing the Pastoral Symphony in this oratorio—"I could see the stars shining through it!"

The now constant custom of the audience to rise and remain standing during the performance of this chorus, is said to have originated in the following manner: On the first production of the work in London, the audience were exceedingly struck and affected by the music in general; and when that chorus struck up, "For the Lord God Omnipotent" in the "Hallelujah," they were so transported that they all together, with the king (who happened to be present), started up and remained standing until the chorus ended. This anecdote I had from Lord Kinnoul.—Dr. James Beattie.

### THIS BUTTON IN YOUR LAPEL



proudly announces membership in the I. B. E. W. A handsome bit of jewelry, in gold and enamel. Solid gold, small size. **\$1.50**

## PRICE LIST OF SUPPLIES

Application Blanks, per 100	\$ .75	Ledger, loose-leaf research, including tabs	15.00
Arrears, Official Notice of, per 100	.50	Ledger sheets for above per 100	2.50
Account Book, Treasurer's	1.00	Labels, Metal, per 100	1.75
Ballot Boxes, each	1.50	Labels, Paper, per 100	.30
Buttons, S. G. (medium)	1.75	Labels, large size for house wiring, per 100	.50
Buttons, S. G. (small)	1.59	Obligation Cards, double, per dozen	.25
Buttons, S. G.	.75	Paper, Official Letter, per 100	.75
Buttons, Cuff, R. G., per pair	2.50	Rituals, extra, each	.25
Button, Gold-faced Diamond Shaped	2.50	Receipt Book, Applicants (300 receipts)	2.40
Book, Minute for R. S. (small)	2.00	Receipt Book, Applicants (750 receipts)	4.80
Book, Minute for R. S. (large)	3.00	Receipt Book, Members (300 receipts)	2.40
Book, Day	1.50	Receipt Book, Members (750 receipts)	4.80
Book, Roll Call	1.50	Receipt Book, Miscellaneous (300 receipts)	2.40
Carbon for receipt books	.05	Receipt Book, Miscellaneous (750 receipts)	4.80
Charm, vest chain slide	5.00	Receipt Book, Overtime assessment (300 receipts)	2.40
Charters, Duplicate	1.00	Receipt Book, Overtime assessment (750 receipts)	4.80
Complete Local Charter Outfit	25.00	Receipt Book, Financial Secretary's	.35
Constitution, per 100	7.50	Receipt Book, Treasurer's	.35
Single Copies	.10	Receipt Holders, each	.25
Electrical Worker, Subscription per year	2.00	Research weekly report cards, per 100	.50
Emblem, Automobile	1.50	Seal, cut of	1.00
Envelopes, Official, per 100	1.00	Seal	4.00
Gavels, each	.50	Seal (pocket)	7.50
Ledger, loose leaf binder, Financial Secretary's, 26 tab index	6.50	Withdrawal Cards, with Trans. Cds., per dozen	.50
Ledger pages to fit above ledger, per 100	1.50	Warrant Book, for R. S.	.50
Ledger, Financial Secretary's, 100 pages	3.00		
Ledger, Financial Secretary's, 200 pages	4.50		
Ledger, Financial Secretary's, 400 pages	8.75		
(Extra Heavy Binding)			

### FOR E. W. B. A.

Application Blanks, per 100	.75	Constitution and By-Laws, per 100	7.50
Book, Minute	1.50	Single Copies	.10
Charters, Duplicates	.50	Rituals, each	.25
		Reinstatement Blanks, per 100	.75

METAL



1225 LABEL

NOTE—The above articles will be supplied when the requisite amount of cash accompanies the order. Otherwise the order will not be recognized. All supplies sent by us have postage or express charges prepaid.

ADDRESS, G. M. BUGIAZET, I. S.



## LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FROM DECEMBER

11, 1933, TO JANUARY 10, 1934

I. O.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS							
1	2699	2700	59	946588	946067	164	268271	268430	267	61095	61100	406	680481	680501
1	14401		60	835929	835962	164	138201	138610	268	417547	417553	407	618450	618453
1	132740	132750	64	13505	13508	169	631642	631647	269	87122	87175	408	126856	126920
1	132902	132908	64	46569	46620	173	651752	651763	275	912518	912538	408	149277	149280
1	204026	204514	64	364261	364340	174	628901	628906	276	571942	571978	409	139519	139520
1	963828	963829	65	126491	126650	176	13507	13508	278	410921	410929	409	171751	171775
2	170381	170500	66	34603	34671	176	25201	25239	280	630512	630521	409	773231	773250
3	A-J, 3345-3355		66	173549	173752	176	335687	335700	284	198113		411	205653	205655
3	B-H, 64		66	321227	321247	178	19124	19131	284	443245	443250	411	648424	648441
3	C-J, 159		67	937289	937304	180	48656	48665	284	806132	806180	413	207751	207793
3	O-A, 3434-3474		69	532943	532945	180	916414	916464	285	642506	642514	413	833229	833250
3	X-G, 26250-26800		72	958562	958565	181	129061	129109	286	634983	634990	415	143747	143750
3	X-G, 27001-28834		73	880898	880991	183	76822	76828	288	790915	790946	415	936338	936362
3	29001	29051	76	205518	205578	183	895243	895267	290	5970	5977	416	91390	91409
4	39248	39255	77	24686	24689	184	150932		290	36310	36312	424	944413	944421
5	85241	85500	77	175617	175717	184	444461	444464	291	335928	335948	426	951301	951306
5	191251	191000	79	205375	205384	185	807558	807626	292	68241	68250	428	938755	938770
6	101141	101330	79	879549	879623	186	34758	34771	292	180751	181030	430	942949	942972
6	141269	141285	80	891433	891457	190	637186	637200	293	72271	72279	431	193212	193222
7	711606	711750	81	70513	70514	190	951001	951002	295	918085	918094	433	988815	988830
7	186751	186805	81	901222	901270	191	935159	935169	296	653157	653166	434	945302	945313
9	102941	103530	82	53154	53239	193	60933	60942	298	27101		435	130542	
9	201678	201690	83	152030	152236	193	152574	152609	298	870170	870210	435	399426	399460
10	627787	627799	83	157501	157507	193	383382	383400	301	274060	274069	437	206151	206157
11	46446	46500	84	76221	76247	193	409051	409802	302	25869	25872	437	651218	651240
11	187501	187614	84	880178	880230	194	160527	160560	302	60568	60580	440	913877	913887
11	207001	207098	86	8053	8073	194	170302	170305	303	528397	528401	441	939346	939357
11	259601	259650	86	15151	15337	195	167251	167328	304	249161	249172	444	285626	285645
14	37226	37240	86	101311	101317	195	837741	837750	304	947708	947735	446	250651	250657
16	28651	28696	86	343991	344138	196	66436	66509	305	42005		446	631170	631187
16	44331	44400	87	885945	885951	196	121503		305	915742	915761	449	910627	910634
16	58115	58154	88	475188	475211	197	584043	584054	307	230851	230856	452	E231151, 153-157,	
17	50891	50879	90	83492	83594	200	40511		307	628639	628651	159, 161-164, 170,		
17	154041	154500	93	935111	935117	200	209289	209415	308	379474	379499	176, 187-189, 191,		
17	220501	220570	94	940225	940230	201	18131	18134	309	73431	73500	204-221, 223-225,		
18	24546	24551	95	640719	640731	201	74101	74114	309	180001	180028	228-235, 237,		
18	133171	133181	96	155908	155924	201	189001		309	284149	284150	453	54247	54255
18	164571	164810	96	682025	683003	203	630715	630717	309	408901	409131	457	759833	759836
20	301431	301462	99	95662	95793	205	174692	174698	311	9997	10049	458	937022	937044
20	725906	725975	99	203842	203850	208	199476	199692	311	25710	25716	460	615956	615959
21	252981	253992	101	284509	284516	208	884354	884381	312	894971	895012	461	864246	864274
22	67237	67302	103	16462	16482	209	600476	600500	313	205806	205812	465	55518	
22	361387	361472	103	36763	38592	210	9352	9414	313	899429	899453	465	156856	157001
26	188259	188562	103	126394	126598	210	68702		317	17337	17367	466	888702	888758
26	206635	206656	103	340671	341190	211	261841	261900	318	921991	922015	468	666399	666404
26	7136	7202	104	33751	33813	211	373651	373680	319	114731	114740	470	84498	84506
26	75694		104	43386	43500	211	883211	883290	321	934043	934056	471	644794	644799
27	869587	869600	105	700222	700247	212	18007	18023	324	633830	633851	474	5733	5734
28	5112	5141	106	919632	919661	212	50431	50824	325	9925	9928	474	194251	194258
28	48054	48320	107	226383	226411	212	52099	52400	326	130574	130635	474	716204	716250
28	365239	365376	107	912200	912220	212	91820	91855	326	232351	232388	475	941413	941420
30	645735	645743	108	890476	890495	213	46464	46487	328	130561	130595	480	7978	7985
31	218600	218605	108	85228	85244	213	47251	47265	329	222458	222459	481	124355	124500
31	940027	940069	109	892825	892833	213	581946	582330	329	910156	910174	481	284251	284271
32	627383	627389	111	200268	200266	214	45097	45099	332	168831	168901	483	23794	23795
33	93198	93204	111	915073	915084	214	110094	110087	333	5784	5882	483	832201	832252
34	60553	60606	113	27906		214	100359	100400	335	87718	87722	488	30961	30970
34	125512	125591	113	655468	655500	214	942316	942322	338	908526	908535	488	94586	94639
35	87908	87975	113	933601	933602	215	652462	652485	339	47388	47428	492	11497	11540
35	310097	310099	114	48254	48259	217	56336	56343	340	100064	100127	496	899701	899713
36	44126		115	86869	86882	219	913242	913251	341	283903	283910	497	204404	204414
36	947102	947160	116	866548	866586	222	801306	801319	342	644500	644511	500	938571	938620
37	458834	458856	120	319091	319109	223	12300	12347	344	51276	51291	501	16288	16433
38	136616	136634	122	28356	28450	224	78962	78918	345	888042	888046	501	124379	124419
38	368661	369370	124	3444	3445	224	549655	549683	348	65319	65440	501	353446	353651
38	802806	803390	124	160804	160874	226	916767	916700	348	123034		502	53450	
39	6355	6516	124	270173	270468	228	78644	78646	349	77150	77153	502	885342	885352
39	16273		125	29738		228	889664	889687	349	180003	180122	504	813838	813849
39	251415	251417	125	177975	178405	229	625702	625711	349	336028	336150	507	668220	668222
40	156001	156209	127	857423	857430	230	219751	219795	350	937535	937540	508	429562	429592
40	157443	157500	129	304831	304864	230	839246	839250	351	197705	197716	509	669202	669212
40	171063	171496	129	814738	814790	231	931933	931953	352	38104	38109	510	35223	35225
40	360605	360718	130	145527		231	224261		352	849299	849327	514	151411	151470
40	385780	385820	130	163975	164149	232	935539	935561	354	656294	656308	514	762161	762200
41	133024	133289	130	384699	384960	233	135001	135078	356	623436	623437	515	631758	631766
41	205689	205702	131	933397	933413	233	214956	215078	357	63601	63609	517	642162	642172
42	629451	629460	133	440915	440949	233	804282	804350	363	712121	712146	520	911332	911346
45	894324	894328	135	658444	658455	235	886531	886535	368	248562	248594	522	655185	655200
46	974951	975100	136	253	286	235	621546	621560	368	638950	638979	522	901801	901831
48	173426	173585	136	222797	222820	239	678585	678586	370	939629	939636	525	642734	642783
48	320132	320177	138	701145	701183	240	858197	858210	371	897618	897623	526	945667	9



L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS
551	60473	60476	685	604184	604205	864	15328	1147	155115
552	95065	95075	686	177582	177604	864	92354	1147	943880
554	214361	214363	688	890720	890726	865	684701	1151	657948
554	898211	898218	690	214108	214196	869	441288	1154	4596
555	899477	899488	690	898551	898610	870	671654	1154	911888
556	340088	340100	691	908221	908227	873	909403	1156	31705
557	942636	942646	693	890748	890770	874	643822		
559	85922	85927	694	133575	133619	886	281163		
561	2429	2578	695	251851		890	706460		
564	740938	740944	697	914277	914297	900	888022		
568	691402	691421	701	159144	159173	902	918853		
570	16404	16410	702	124666	124723	912	1382		
573	658970	658998	704	159775	159790	912	6125		
580	52719	52725	707	891093	891125	912	190225		
584	230901	230937	710	652609	652622	914	170135		
584	797101	797126	711	5185	5195	915	75972		
585	246451	246452	711	22924	22977	918	17897		
585	618117	618121	713	123291	123387	922	21831		
586	390661	390680	714	229057		922	83105		
588	686767	686800	714	657401	657408	937	672238		
591	634456	634477	716	289793	289796	940	624221		
594	942013	942030	716	111751	111810	948	31586		
595	110821	110964	716	595451	595500	948	182281		
595	158471	158480	716	26450	26461	948	242209		
599	932486	932503	717	4815	4864	949	246800		
601	931618	931633	717	9828	9829	949	941155		
602	20810	20812	719	825261	825288	953	912688		
602	934579	934590	723	166588	166649	956	83821		
603	644751	644754	723	221251	221306	958	657460		
607	78256	78265	725	232039	232110	963	38979		
611	27142	27164	728	909006	909017	971	443236		
611	195155	195158	731	228453		972	665260		
613	43750	43770	731	934885	934901	978	74606		
613	49325	49500	732	889975	890013	991	914463		
613	192751	192887	734	82855	82859	996	65216		
613	211951	212100	734	135826	135888	1002	194266		
617	795269	795288	735	663371	663376	1002	932343		
619	630526	630542	743	690408	690448	1024	82540		
622	584716	584721	757	945905	945921	1024	180504		
623	808778	808804	760	145531	145531	1029	620091		
630	334919	334935	760	215551	215620	1032	932743		
631	559439	559472	762	647281	647295	1036	639902		
636	554088	554126	770	889492	889500	1037	23771		
637	122858		770	900001	900042	1047	697806		
637	894636	894646	772	702435	702439	1054	37468		
642	142405	142473	773	654811	654838	1057	482631		
644	933118	933134	774	891741	891780	1072	223962		
646	47572	47579	784	936111	936135	1072	858927		
648	85612	85676	792	919282	919289	1086	21138		
649	226076		794	943573	943629	1087	19068		
649	535347	535385	798	954956	954970	1091	941739		
653	931337	931355	802	675740	675748	1095	531933		
660	431150	431172	809	49715	49724	1099	645403		
661	206180	206198	811	64672	64676	1101	940526		
664	897304	897329	817	94033	94280	1108	81798		
668	74905	74914	819	892263	892277	1118	887196		
673	663255	663266	820	144751	144759	1131	38698		
676	83227	83230	840	622991	623004	1131	949801		
677	874647	874656	850	746352	746354	1135	647491		
679	502261	502278	854	721789	721809	1141	22014		
680	706391	706397	855	4416	4423	1141	241591		
681	641845	641855	855	247378	247416	1141	940878		
683	895592	895631	857	620420	620438	1144	86708		
684	224885		858	886993	887027	1144	81429		
684	934281	934296	863	907980	907990	1147	57007		

### A. F. OF L. ADOPTS FLEXIBLE POLICY

(Continued from page 56)

of national and international unions, of affiliated local units and of the American Federation of Labor general, special and volunteer organizers in the respective centers, for the purpose of creating complete understanding and harmony among those charged with organization work, to be followed in methods of promoting organization, so to avoid or lessen unnecessary friction, conflict or limitations due to varying financial requirements or different national and international organizations, and forms and character of organizations being promoted.

#### Consultation Meetings of National Officers

"Third: That the officers of the American Federation of Labor call into special conferences periodically the executive officers or representatives, or representative committees of the several departments and divisions of organized labor within the American Federation of Labor to review the progress of organization made and to plan for future methods to be followed and means to be employed in furthering organization in their respective fields of endeavor.

"Fourth: That the officers of the American Federation of Labor arrange for mass meetings of wage earners throughout the land and that all local unions be called upon to co-operate in calling and arranging for these mass meetings; that the officers of the American Federation of Labor, likewise, undertake to train and arrange for speakers at these and other meetings; that both the press and radio be used to the fullest possible extent, and that every other means available be used to further the spirit of organization and promote the formation of trade unions among wage earners throughout the land.

#### Labor Must Unite Everywhere

"The conditions with which the workers are at present confronted make organization more imperative than ever. The need of the workers everywhere is to get together, to organize, to exercise the principles of mutual aid, to form trade unions, the one method whereby they can effectually protect themselves in industry and meet the enormous problems of the day."

#### Committee Membership

The committee which drafted and reported the organization plan consisted of the following representatives of national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor:

Matthew Woll, chairman; Victor A. Olander, secretary; Arthur O. Wharton,

Daniel J. Tobin, Charles P. Howard, Andrew Myrup, George Lakey, David Dubinsky and Michael Colleran.

In addition the conference adopted a program which is to be sponsored in Congress by Senator Robert F. Wagner. This program calls for six amendments to the National Industrial Recovery Act, as follows:

1. Adequate labor representation on all code authorities.
2. Industrial boards with equal representation of labor and employers in all branches of industry to adjust grievances.
3. Amendment of Section 7 (a) to provide protection of workers in their right to organize, free from discharge, lockout or discrimination.
4. Amendment to prohibit corporations and employers from using their funds to establish, foster, promote or maintain company unions. A similar provision is embodied in the emergency transportation act.
5. An amendment to provide that the national and regional labor boards be clothed with authority to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths and when necessary, to be accorded the right to examine the books of the corporation.
6. Vesting in the labor board mandatory powers to hold elections where the workers request it or where the labor board deems it necessary to determine whom the workers wish to elect as representatives of their own choosing for collective bargaining.



# ON EVERY JOB

## There's a Laugh & Two

Well, 1934 is well started and most of our pals are still with us in this column and a few promising newcomers as well. William E. Hanson, of Local No. 103, Boston, writes that he will accept a contract for poetic effusions at \$100 per week for 35 hours, anent our recently published news item about NRA and poets. Sorry, Bill, that was pure foolin', and most likely when they get to it they'll pay by the outlet and not by the hour.

\* \* \*

### City and Country

Here's something I heard years ago at the recruiting office at State and Congress Streets:

"Sambo, you'd make a fine soldier. You're a citizen; join the regulars and fight for the country."

"Mr. Sergeant, ah's a regular citified chocolate soldier now; ah's born in de city, raised in de city, and jest ain't int'rested in de country. Yes, sah, ah jest ain't."

JACK HUNTER,  
L. U. No. 68.

\* \* \*

Here's one of our new pals, and we welcome him and might admit we kinda like his style.

### When My Ship Rolls In

When my ship comes rolling in,  
If ere then I'm not froze,  
I hope she's loaded, fore and aft  
With those things we call clothes;  
For I find this clime in some respect  
Is not ideal for a nudist sect,  
And that is what we soon will be,  
If payday don't come suddenly.

When my ship comes rolling in,  
In the old prosperous way,  
No matter what the weather is  
I'll meet her at the quay.  
I know I won't chastise her,  
Not even bust her on the chin,  
But I certainly will ask that jane  
To tell me where she's been,  
When my ship comes rolling in.

J. W. VAN AMAN,  
L. U. No. 3.

\* \* \*

### A Psalm of Gratitude

I'm grateful to our friend, the Duke,  
Of Local 2-4-5;  
We all, indeed, are glad to read  
That he is still alive.

I'm grateful to John Masterson,  
"The bard with four eyes,"  
Some day to him this page will bring,  
A wonderful surprise.

I'm grateful for these gleanings here,  
Which come from far and wide;  
For every bit of verse and wit,  
With which we are supplied.

I'm grateful for the space allowed,  
To express this gratitude;  
To read the new, and write for you,  
Gives me beatitude.

WALTER H. HENDRICK, I. O.,  
"Somewhere in the West."

A few months ago three Scotchmen, particular friends of mine, arrived in New York and, of course, hunted me up. I spent some time showing them the big city. I introduced them at the Hotel Victoria, a 45-story building. They had a night out together and I learned they returned to the hotel at 4 a. m. feeling pretty jolly and full of Johnny Walker. The porter greeted them with sad news and said, "Sorry to inform you gentlemen that the dynamo has bust and none of the lifts are working. If you'd rather not climb 45 stories to your rooms I'll arrange beds for you in the hall."

"No thank you," said Tam, the spokesman for the trio. "We dinna mind walkin' up the stairs, but we'll leave oor overcoats doon here in the cloakroom." Then turning to his companions, he made this proposition:

"To mak' th' time flee past an' tak' oor minds off the stairs I'll tell stories for the first 15 flights. On the next 15 flights you, Wullie, will sing songs. Then for the last 15 flights, you Bob, will tell some sad stories and afore we neu we'll be on the forty-fifth floor."

They started to climb. Tam told jokes for the first 15 flights and Wullie sang songs for the next 15. On the thirtieth landing, Tam cried, "Noo, Bob, this is where you start wi' yer sad stories." Bob moaned: "An' hivn't I got a sad story to tell; I've been dying tae tell it. I've left the keys in ma overcoat."

M. J. BUTLER,  
L. U. No. 3, New York City.

\* \* \*

### Did Mamma Try It?

This happened at the dinner table in our home. Soft-boiled eggs were part of the meal. Our little son, aged 4 years, asked his mother how chickens came out of eggs. My wife explained, that the hen sat on the eggs to keep them warm until the chicken was ready to hatch. Sonny then asked: "Mamma, why don't you do that?"

BILL LEWIS,  
L. U. No. 723, Fort Wayne, Ind.

\* \* \*

### The Machine Menace

Honest to goodness, this really happened! A Brother going to Florida by boat, went aboard early and unpacking some of his belongings, hung two saws on a coat hook. When retiring for the night he hung his pants on the same hook.

Next morning, awakening to the delightful aroma of ham 'n' eggs 'n' coffee he discovered that, due to the rolling of the boat, his two saws had been gently sawing at his best pants for several hours, cutting a ragged gash a foot long above the knee.

It wasn't a two-pants suit.

ARNOLD FOX,  
L. U. No. 3.

\* \* \*

B'gosh, we hope Kumpi is a good-natured guy! Many a man can laugh off a personal slur, but these cracks about his home town may be resented! Well, Duke you can send us your picture from the hospital when you are loaded with bandages and plaster casts. We'll love it.

Morris Kumpi, Chief Grunt

"What place is this here, stranger,  
This wide place in the road?  
I'm looking for a place called Maumee,  
And does this town come under the code?"

"This, my friend, is the place you seek,  
Back of that billboard there,  
Those other two buildings are cattle sheds  
Where we hold our county fair.

"That man leaning against the mail box  
Is our police force and our mayor,  
He directs traffic for cows and geese  
At Conant and Wayne Streets there.

"Two other men once called this home,  
But one has passed away,  
And the other works in Toledo,  
Nigh onto eight miles, they say.

"In that barnyard there is a tombstone  
Where one citizen lies at rest,  
He was an honest worker,  
And always did his best.

"By his side is a grave reserved  
For this other man, assured of fame,  
As the world's champion fumbler,  
And he's known as Kumpi by name.

"He knows no fear, this buckaroo,  
He cares not what's the lineman's height,  
Simply give this guy a railroad track  
And he'll get along all right.

"When he returns to Maumee  
The town is always aglow,  
All the people are out to meet him,  
For he owes both of them dough.

"As long as he has lots of help  
No job for him is too big,  
As long as there's no grunting to do  
And no holes for to dig."

THE DUKE OF TOLEDO,  
L. U. No. 245.  
Assuming all responsibility.

\* \* \*

### They Had Him

The manager of a traveling theatrical company wired the owner of a small town theater as follows:

"Would like to hold rehearsal next Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Have your stage manager, carpenter, property man, electrician and all stage hands present at that hour."

Four hours later he received this reply: "All right. He'll be there."

\* \* \*

### "Right"

"Now, children," inquired the teacher, "can any of you name the lowest and the dirtiest of animals in the world?"

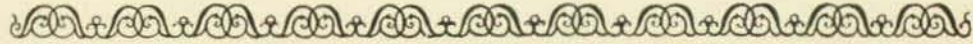
"Yessum, I can", answered a red-headed boy at the far end of the room. "The rat is the lowest and the dirtiest of all the animals in the world."

"Very well, Micky, tell the class why you think so."

"'Cause I heard me fadder say he lost his job on account of a rat."

G. L. MONSIVE,  
L. U. No. 595.





I CONFESS that a certain hard-eyed, cold-hearted look in the American sometimes causes me to remember that slavery was always commerce, and that commerce is to some extent always slavery. Such great wealth as has been created in America since 1865 would have hardened the eyes of any generation that looked on it. We have indeed been born to calamity in America, and our miseries have come thickly upon us. If you will walk back across the whole history of the world, you will find that respect for learning has never before fallen so low as it has fallen in the United States today. \* \* \*

This awful loss of all the terms of thought, this beggary of intellect, is shown in the unwillingness of the average man in America to go to the bottom of any subject, his mental inertia, his hatred of impersonal thought, his belief in labor-saving, his indifference to truth. The state of mind in which commercial classes spend their lives is not that of pure, self-sacrificing spiritual perception. The commercial mind seems, in its essence, to be the natural enemy of love, religion, and truth; and when, as at the present moment in America, we have commerce dominant in an era whose characteristic note is contempt for the past, we can hardly expect a picturesque, pleasing, or harmonious social life.

—JOHN JAY CHAPMAN.

